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 Hutchinson, MN 55350
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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



Sunday, May 5th is **Bless the Years** Sunday. It's a day we highlight the elderly members of our Faith Lutheran family. Often we focus our attention on the trials and losses seniors endure in their aging years. We remind ourselves that a God of grace and saving love will never neglect His people in trials, especially those encountered in their later years.

This year we want to focus on the fact that our elders can be some of the most encouraging members of the congregation. Having faced and endured numerous difficult challenges—illness, death and other losses—God has equipped them with faith for new challenges.

Like in 1938, when our current worship facility was built and dedicated, it is likely we will vote on building a new one sometime soon. It is a marvelous opportunity to pull together people of all ages and economic status, including our elderly saints, to construct a facility that will better serve our calling to **“Go and make disciples of all nations....”** Phase II is not about building to honor ourselves. It is about answering a call from God Himself, to grow in faith and to **“...make disciples..”** That can best be done when we work out of a facility that meets our space needs.

No one can truthfully deny this is a scary and gigantic goal. We rightfully shudder at the thought of raising 10 to 12 million dollars to complete the project. Just looking at our paychecks, wallets, savings and investments will make us shrink. **“That will take a miracle,”** as some have said.

But as the people of God, we have bigger resources beyond our ideas and pocketbooks. Our God often calls people to do more than they reasonably believe they can achieve. Here's an example: Open your Bible to I Samuel 17 and read the account of David killing Goliath. It's not a fanciful story about a giant-killer. It's about a child of God accomplishing more than humanly possible out of a simple trust in God. The Philistine army has a giant leader named Goliath who challenged anyone to fight him. No one took the challenge—except David.

What made David brave enough to go up against a giant? You can find his explanation in I Samuel 17:45. Essentially, David tells Goliath, **“You want to defeat me with weapons. I come in the Name of Almighty God.”**

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senior SPOTLIGHT



What an enjoyable visit I was privileged to have with Orv and Bev Moe. They have been members of Faith since 2001. I have attended many Bible studies and have worshipped with them at the 8:00 a.m. Sunday services for over 20 years, but until our visit, I knew very little about them. Was I in for a treat.

Bev was born at the Litchfield Hospital in 1938. She was a twin, born seven minutes after her sister. She grew up on the family farm where their son and daughter-in-law, Dan and Donna now live. Farming, growing produce, and helping with the animals was how Bev grew up. It was hard work but she loved it and continues to follow that work ethic still today.

Bev and her family were members of Peace Lutheran Church in Hutchinson. Her church memories as a small child were few. But she did state every time she sees a sunbeam it reminds her of Sunday school and God coming to earth. She shared that believing in God was no epiphany for her. Her faith was just always there. More vivid memories of church started during her teen years. She remembers fondly Luther League, ice cream socials, paper drives, and joint outings with the various other churches in the community.

Orv was born at Bethesda Hospital in St. Paul in 1935. His parents ran a restaurant and Orv's childhood memories were of working at the restaurant washing dishes, busing tables, and, as he got older, serving various beverages. Orv's family lived across the alley from his family church. Since his parents were sometimes working on Sundays at the restaurant, Orv would attend church alone, but as he said to me, "it was natural to be part of the church." The pastor became a wonderful family friend, often sharing fishing outings together, so even when Orv was alone in church he felt connected. He smiled remembering whenever together with the pastor he had a question to clarify. For anyone who knows Orv, that would come as no surprise. One of the first times he realized his connection with God occurred when he was a lifeguard at summer church camp. He rescued a swimmer who was struggling and needed help to get to shore. After the incident, as he was discussing the event with the camp counselor, he was told that Jesus is struggling to save him just as he was trying to save that struggling swimmer. That incident had a huge effect on Orv's faith.

Bev graduated from Hutchinson High in 1956 and went on to become a registered nurse. Orv graduated from Johnson High School in 1953 and attended the University of MN, graduating with an electrical engineering degree. It seems these two were meant to be a couple even though they didn't meet in the classroom. Bev and her sister went on a toboggan outing with a group of friends one winter day. They finished the outing at the University of MN Lutheran Center for hot chocolate and cookies. Even though Orv didn't go on the outing, he somehow managed to be in the building the same time these young ladies were. Bev says it's because he wanted the treats. Maybe so, but as it turns out the bus that brought the girls to the center left without them, so Orv offered to get them back home. He remembers there was a bunch of young ladies needing a ride, but Bev and her sister got the front seat. Bev and Orv were married on October 11, 1958.

Bev worked in the nursing field while Orv continued his studies at the U. In 1963, with two small children, the Moe family moved to California. They moved back to Minnesota in 1968, but in 1970 they returned to California. In 2001 they moved one more time, bringing them back to the family farm.

Continued on page 3

Pastor's Page continued from pg. 1

Can that be OUR cry...we come to our Phase II building program with checkbooks and savings, and annuities, certainly, but with so much more.

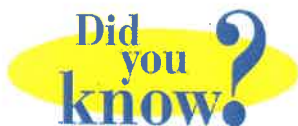
We come in the Name and power of Almighty God, who has set us free from sin through Jesus Christ. He calls us to

do far more than we think we can. He calls us to use our means sacrificially, "*laying up treasure in heaven.*"

Here's another Biblical text to look at and ponder: Mark 11: 22 and following, where Jesus said if we have "*faith like a mustard seed.*" we can be mountain movers. Dr. Don Juel, in a commentary on Mark says this: "**This summarizes what miracle stories have made clear: faith in God can accomplish extraordinary things. So do not hesitate to pray, Jesus tells His followers—that is, to ask of God even what seems impossible.**"

So let's pray: Lord, I'm scared at the thought of raising all that money. I tremble when my brain thinks about this "giant." But I believe YOU can accomplish through us more than we can ever imagine. Grant us faith to believe that when you call your children to do something we believe is impossible, you will also supply the means. Give us trust in You, so that when it is done, people will look to God, and know that You are alive in Faith Lutheran Church and in the world of Your great kingdom. Amen.

Pastor Paulus Pilgrim



What is the main concern facing future Sunday School Christmas Programs?

a. Time b. Costumes c. Space d. Music

How many office spaces do we have for our current 12 staff members and 3 interns?

a. 10 b. 12 c. 20 d. None, the staff only work on Sunday mornings

ANSWERS: See page 7

Senior Spotlight continued from pg. 2

Bev returned to Minnesota before Orv in 2001, so she started the search for a church home. She told me she visited the "big ones" in Hutchinson and even visited some country churches, but she felt the most welcome at Faith. The people were so friendly and once she started getting involved, she discovered it was an educational church. Not only Sunday services but all the additional Bible studies were the best around. It was the perfect fit, and when Orv joined her at the farm Faith is where they came. Orv recalls what an exciting time for him it was to be a small part of the Word Alone movement, getting back to the basics of God's teachings.

In closing our visit, I asked both Bev and Orv if God seems more important as they get older. Bev smiled and told me she sees God's work being done around her and time is getting closer when she will meet him. Orv started explaining quantum physics to me (or tried to). I told him he needed to give me an answer in 20 words or less and this is what he said, "God is a God of time and I'm getting older."

Yes, Bev and Orv are getting older but they still remain very active both at church and at home. Sunday worship services, Digging Deeper class, and various Bible studies during the week keep them involved at church. And they both stay busy at home. Bev shared with me that she still provides fresh sweet breads and jellies and jams for sale along with Dan's fresh produce at various farmers' markets. Last August through December, Bev prepared 130 loaves of fresh bread and 130 half pints of jelly and jams made in her kitchen. That is a lot of slicing, dicing, and mixing, a job shared with Orv. And after the work is done, the kitchen is where both the Moes can be found enjoying a good cup of coffee and a fresh slice of bread.

Submitted by Virginia Brodd



Stump the Pastor

Q: Is the speaking in tongues that the Holy Spirit empowered the apostles to do on Pentecost Day the same as the speaking in tongues that still happens in charismatic churches?

A: No, they are not the same, and it does not diminish either gift to recognize that. They are just different. In fact, what happened on Pentecost is not the same as the speaking in tongues that St. Paul describes in his letters, either.

The Holy Spirit's coming on Pentecost was a unique event that equipped the apostles to speak in actual languages which the Jewish believers who had come to Jerusalem for the festival could understand. Very likely, everyone in the crowd would have spoken Greek, which was the common language in the Roman Empire, but God wanted them to hear the good news in their native languages. (People who are proficient in more than one language often say they hear their native language in a richer way than any other they learn.) That demonstration of the Holy Spirit's power also fulfilled the prophecy from Joel 2 that Peter quoted in his sermon.

By contrast, the speech Paul describes in his letters and that still occurs in charismatic churches is ecstatic or heavenly speech that no one understands, not even the speaker. A separate gift of interpretation is required to make sense of the utterance. Paul writes, "One who speaks in a tongue should pray for the power to interpret... Otherwise, if you say a blessing with the spirit, how can anyone in the position of an outsider say the 'Amen' to your thanksgiving, since the outsider does not know what you are saying?... In church, I would rather speak five words with my mind, in order to instruct others also, than ten thousand words in a tongue." (I Corinthians 14:13, 16, 19) Paul was not denigrating such ecstatic speech; he claimed to do it more than anyone in the Corinthian church. He only emphasized the importance of hearing God's word in a way that is understandable by all. That means speaking in tongues is not a greater spiritual gift than any other, but one, when it is granted, that is to be used for the good of the Church.



Stewardship Matters

Stewardship
A way of living

It is well-known advice not to talk about religion or politics at any social gathering. The topics are too private and stir up strong emotions. They can quickly turn a pleasant party into a shouting match.

Another topic should be added to the list, however. Many people are even more sensitive about money and their finances. It is a chief reason why people complain that the church is "always asking for money." That really is not true, but any talk at all about money tends to cut too close for comfort.

Why is that? The Bible insists that our money and possessions play a *spiritual* role in our lives. As just one example, Jesus said, "Do not store up for yourselves treasures on earth, where moth and rust consume and where thieves break in and steal; but store up for yourselves treasure in heaven ... for where your *treasure* is, there your *heart* will be also." (*Matthew 6:19-21*) Money and what it can do for us naturally appeal to our self-interest, and self-centeredness is at the heart of sin.

Just because money is so powerful, we can easily center our trust in it, more so than in God who provides it for us. Christian stewardship declares instead that money is simply a tool—a very powerful tool, but no more than that. One key way to establish that is to give money away, whether you give it to the church or to other worthy causes. Giving money away is not a natural human response, but to do so regularly and intentionally reminds us that it is a tool to be used, not a god to be trusted.



**Report from the Front Lines:
Staying Centered and Moving Forward Together**
From Pastor K.K. Alavi and Dr. Abdul Messiah (pictured below)

Beginnings: Markuz ul Bishara was established to train and equip Christ-like leaders to engage and continue God’s mission. By obeying the Great Commission of our Lord Jesus Christ, our team of leaders works in mission fields bearing witness primarily to Muslims. Our ministries continue to expand and are spread across all states of India and beyond.

In 1979, Bishara’s work began in a small, one-room house rented at Manjeri in the State of Kerala, later expanding to its present status. Over the past 45 years, the Lord has raised up many friends and well-wishers world-wide who support this ministry through their prayers and gifts. New Hope Mission Society has been one of these vital partners for nearly 25 of those years.



seriously jeopardized without new witnesses prepared to extend world evangelization. The Shaliach Institute, Bible College, seeks to be instrumental in God’s hand in calling the Church back to the Bible as God’s Word and to the Gospel as its mission to the world.

The program is Bible-based, Christ-centered, and ministry-oriented. It is our responsibility to preach the Gospel to our fellow Indians and preserve the faith and freedom of our children. SBC offers different programs to train and equip leaders. So far, 150 students have graduated and are working in remote areas of our country. Many have started house churches in the villages and serve the community in multiple ways.

Bible College Moves the Witness Forward:
The Shaliach Institute was given birth out of a conviction that K.K. Alavi held deep within himself that the testimony of Jesus Christ is

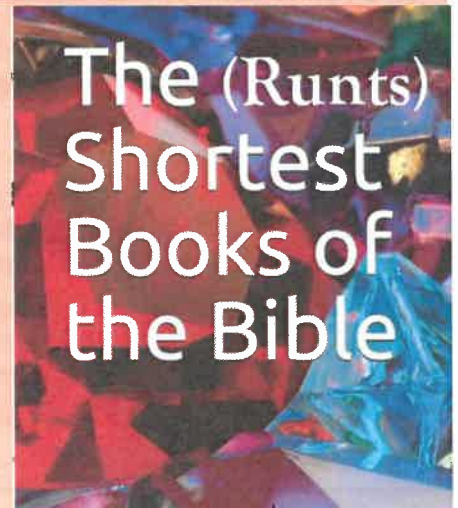
Faith Lutheran Church has been a leader of NHMS and played a pivotal role in this mission for nearly 25 years.



“Faith Seeks Understanding”
Continuing Learning Opportunities for Adults
Digging Deeper sessions are held between services on Sunday mornings at 9:15 a.m.

The Runts: The Shortest Books of the Bible

It’s easy to overlook the little guys. The Bible is full of wonderful writing, and compelling subject matter. From Romans to Isaiah, Genesis to Luke, Psalms to Galatians, the educational possibilities are endless! Because of that, brief books like Haggai, Obadiah, Philemon, II and III John, and Jude often get passed by for something lengthier. Most of those books are only a chapter long! This class will give these short books the attention they’re due. We will continue to examine one book each session and explore the general circumstances and message of each. Join us in the Faith Center through May 12 at 9:15 a.m.



News from the Faith Lutheran Church Women

Mugs and Muffins: Girls and women of all ages ~ you won't want to miss the May Mugs and Muffins. Courtney Corrente, one of our FLInterns, will be the speaker for this event. Come join us on May 4, at 9:30 a.m. in the Faith Center.

Hi, Faith Ladies! Courtney Corrente, here, and I am so excited to join you for Mugs & Muffins on May 4! I will be speaking about my few years working in ministry and what God has taught me through it all. I look forward to seeing you there!



Church Cookbook: We are looking for your favorite recipes in the following categories: Appetizers & Beverages, Soups & Salads, Vegetables & Side Dishes, Main Dishes, Breads & Rolls, Cakes & Desserts, Bars, Cookies & Candy, This & That, Air Fryer, Instapot, Crockpot & Freezer Meals, Cooking for One, Recipes from our church youth, Barbecue, Grilling & Smoking, Holiday Meal Menus, Healthful Eats. Recipes may be submitted to Flwcookbook25@gmail.com, or dropped off at the church office. The deadline for submitting recipes is September 30. If you have a favorite family recipe that holds a memory, feel free to include a little story that we may include with the recipe. The goal is to have cookbooks available in time to purchase as Christmas gifts.

May Free Community Date Change

FREE
community
MEAL

The date of the May free community meal has been moved from May 12 to May 19 so that all of the FLC moms can enjoy being served instead of serving on Mother's Day. The FLCW will serve the May 19 meal which will feature walking tacos.



Support Groups

Faith Lutheran Church Support Groups

We are truly blessed with wonderful pastoral care efforts here at Faith Lutheran! People come together and, by faith and God's grace, they are helped.

We have a number of books and resources used by support group participants. If you are interested in checking out a group or the material, or if you want to help offset the book costs for others, please reach out to Pastor Paulus Pilgrim, Marsha Schmit, or Jeff Amundson.

Grief Group

For anyone who struggles with the loneliness and emptiness brought on by loss, perhaps of a loved one in death, or divorce, or any kind of deprivation, we are offering Grief Support. This group will continue to meet at 4:00 p.m. on **May 2 and 9**. For members or others in need of a confidential setting to resolve grief issues. For questions see Marsha Schmit or Pastor Paulus Pilgrim.

Grief Support
Group

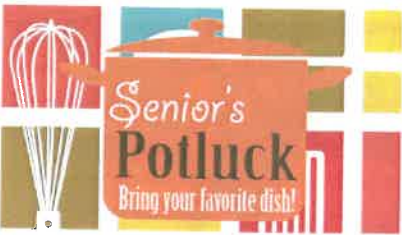


FACe Cancer Support Group



Having cancer can be hard and very challenging. Often you can feel alone or without hope. The FACe group is there to help. We can, by the grace of God, shed a little light into the darkness. A little knowledge and experience to the unsure. A little love to let you know you are not alone. We meet the 2nd and 4th Thursdays at 10:00 a.m. in the upstairs conference room at Faith. Those fighting cancer and their caregivers are welcome to attend.

E-mail Jeff at jeffa@faithlc.com with questions or for more information.



Seniors Scene

Isn't that just the way life goes. We just get started and then it's over—until September that is. We just met to hear from Mark Telecky about properly using our dumpsters and separating recyclable waste from junk back in September. (How are you doing with that?) Quick...do you recall our October meeting topic? That's over and gone, right? Well it's been a good year, thanks to our steering committee. Now we meet once more before our summer break to hear about the Wildlife Preserve and Gopher Campfire. That may change just a bit since the first speaker we asked has since died. But Daryl Bateman worked hard to get a replacement for the same basic topic. Thanks Daryl! So mark your calendars—**May 30, 2024 at 12:00 noon**. So bring your favorite food to share, along with a friend, and let's share food and friends, with Jesus in our midst.

A REMINDER – **Sunday, May 5** is **BLESS THE YEARS Sunday**. Seniors will do all the ushering, lesson-reading and the like. Guess who will be highlighted in "Spotlight on Seniors" this year. It's in this *Faith Matters* issue.

Summer Outdoor Worship Returning Soon

You may recognize the name of St. Francis of Assisi as a patron Saint of Italy and the attributed author to the well-known poem, *Make Me an Instrument of Thy Peace*. Francis was born in central Italy in 1182, the son of a rich merchant. Much of his life is surrounded with stories of truth and fiction so it can be difficult to separate the two. However, we do know that he loved nature and animals in particular. After renouncing his wealth and committing to a life of simple means, Francis traveled the countryside of Italy preaching the Gospel of Jesus Christ to everyone and everything he met. He reportedly preached to a flock of birds that failed to fly off upon blocking his path on a road. He professed, "My brother and sister birds, you should praise your Creator and always love Him. He gave you feathers for clothes, wings to fly, and all other things you need. It is God who made your home in thin, pure air. Without sowing or reaping, you receive God's guidance and protection." The flock is said to have flown off, rejoicing at his words! Shortly before his death, Francis penned the lyrics to *All Creatures of Our God and King*; "All creatures of our God and King, lift up your voice with us and sing, alleluia! Thou burning sun with golden beam, thou silver moon with softer gleam, O praise Him! Alleluia!" His words echo the Psalmist who exclaims "Praise the Lord! Praise the Lord from the heavens; praise him in the heights.... Let [us] praise the name of the Lord, for his name alone is exalted; his glory is above earth and heaven." Psalm 148 encourages all creation, from the angles in heaven, sun, moon, and stars, mountains and trees, beasts of the fields, and the sea monsters of the deep to praise God's name.



As we transition to outdoor worship at the end of this month, let us join together with all creation, in God's creation, to praise his name. See you in worship!

Soli Deo Gloria, Austin

Beginning Sunday, May 25, through September 8, Faith will once again hold the 10:10 a.m. services in Library Square. If the weather does not cooperate on any Sunday, the service will be moved back into the sanctuary. You can check the Faith Facebook page for weather updates. Meanwhile, now is the time to dust off your lawn chairs, shake out your picnic blanket and get ready for worship in God's great outdoors. First Word services at 8 a.m. will continue to be held in the sanctuary every week.

ANSWERS

What is the main concern facing future Sunday School Christmas Programs?

a. Time b. Costumes **c. Space** d. Music

How many office spaces do we have for our current 12 staff members and 3 interns?

a. 10 b. 12 c. 20 d. None, the staff only work on Sunday mornings





Congratulations 2024 High School Graduates!

Ashlyn Aydt

Cameron Bloemke

Kaden Butler

Logan butler

Isabelle Dressen

Madilyn Gehrke

Jolynn Hanan

Audrey Hanson

Cade Johnson

Luke Johnson

Owen Kellen

Grant Kropp

Ethan Lenz

Cody Olson

Ethan Peterson

Charles Renner

Jacob Schiller

Mackenzie Smith

Breanna Stansbury

Daniel St. Onge

Jonathon St. Onge

Lola Strey

Kolby Uecker

Carter Verhasselt

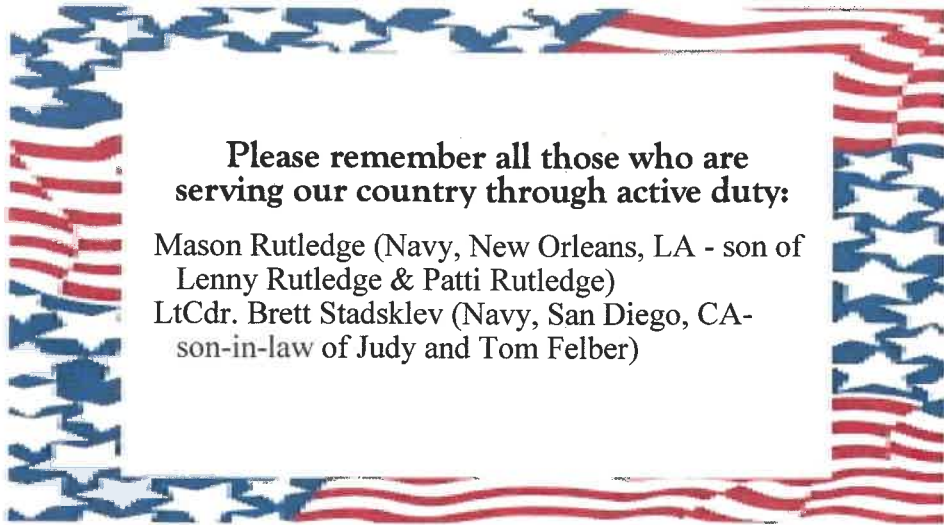
Kiara Wakefield

Soren Wehler

Your Faith Family is Proud of You!

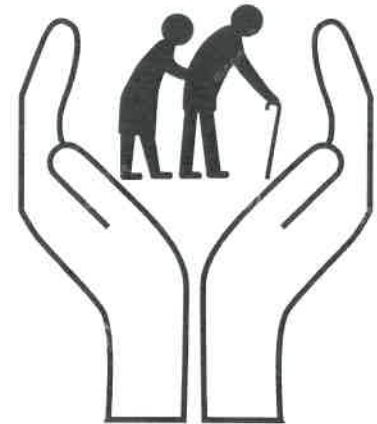
***Please keep these students and their families in your prayers
as they navigate this new chapter in their lives.***

Please Remember in Prayer



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

Mason Rutledge (Navy, New Orleans, LA - son of Lenny Rutledge & Patti Rutledge)
 LtCdr. Brett Stadskev (Navy, San Diego, CA - son-in-law of Judy and Tom Felber)



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

Faith Lutheran Church INFORMATION & STAFF DIRECTORY

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Paulus Pilgrim, Visitation	320-234-9753 (home)	paulusp@faithlc.com

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Owen Weikle, Custodial Services Coordinator		
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Erika Smith, Nursery Attendant		

Buffalo Lake Nursing Home

Kathy Fabel

Cedar Crest - Silver Lake

Patricia Lambert

Cokato Nursing Home

Clara Betker

Harmony River

Ray Krueger

Oaks

Phyllis Blum

Alice Poshek

Pines

Elaine Blade

Frances Olson

Maynard and Shirley Holtz

Woodstone

Dodie Fenske

Cyndy Ollrich

Children, Youth, and Family Ministry Dates



Sunday School

Our last day of Sunday School is May 19.

B23

Join our FLIntern, Courtney, as she leads the last B23 for this school year.

56er's

The last day of 56er's is on May 15. God Squad, a summer version of 56er's, will begin June 12 from 3:30 p.m.—5 p.m..

Great Start

The last Great Start of the school year is on May 1 from 7:45 a.m.—10:20 a.m..

Summer Ministries

Vacation Bible School is for children who have completed Preschool—4th grade. This year it will be held at Faith Lutheran Church on June 24–27 from 9 a.m.—noon. Scan QR code below to register.



Day Camp is for children who have completed Kindergarten—5th grade. This year it will be held at Christ the King Lutheran Church August 5—8 from 9 a.m.—2 p.m. Registration is now open via the QR code and 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.



FLY Night

Faith Lutheran Youth night continues for all high school students on Wednesdays from 7:00—9:30 p.m.

College Scholarship Applications

High school seniors and college students who are members of Faith Lutheran are encouraged to apply for college scholarships. Applications are found on the church website and the deadline to turn them in is May 6.

Young Adult Night

This group of college and young adults will meet on Tuesday nights at 6:30 p.m. The location switches between Faith and Christ the King. Contact Kristen with any questions.

Mystery Bus Registration

This mini mission trip for 5th—7th grade students is June 18—20 from 8 a.m.—5 p.m. each day. Each day we do a service project and then something fun. It is a highlight of the summer for all who participate. Registration is now open via the QR code.





Healthy, Broken, and Heavenly Families

In my years of working with children—four summers as a non-profit day camp craft room teacher, two summers as a camp counselor, two summers as an assistant Bible camp program director, and seven years as a children’s director—I have seen my fair share of healthy and broken families.

There are families to whom I look as examples of healthy families. These families create core memories like being Sunday School teachers for their child’s class, coaches to their child’s team, sitting with each child individually before bed to ask what their child wants to talk about, cooking with their child, having movie and popcorn nights/sleepovers in mom and dad’s room when one parent has to go on a work trip, helping their teenager process a break-up, sitting down and simply listening to the heart break that comes from the friend drama in their pre-teen’s friend group, and just being there. These families show patience, love, trust, joy, and grace.

Then there are families with a lot of hurt. These families have shown impatience, short tempers, hurtful words, avoidance, broken promises, disrespect, lack of interest, and so much more.

Families are not perfect. Even healthy families mess up once in a while. It is not just doom and gloom for broken families, either. There is hope. Hope that the Holy Spirit is working in the hearts of the parents and children. Working on bringing out more of the fruits of the Spirit like; love, joy, peace, patience, gentleness, goodness, faithfulness, and self-control.

There is also hope in knowing that we have an amazing Heavenly Father. A Father who is love, who always keeps his promises, never changes, does not lie, is good, patient, full of grace, and is always there for all of His children. He is present and showers love on each child that I have worked with, for you, and for me. And thank God for that!

Laura Stowman, Director of Children and Family Ministries

Kristen Durst, Director of Youth and Family Ministries

Faith Lutheran Church
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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

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