

All Saints on Deck!

November is a great month for the church year. We begin with All Saints Day, on November 3, when we celebrate those saints that have gone before us and those saints added to our number through baptism. Then we end the month by giving thanks with our Thanksgiving Eve (6:30 p.m.) and Thanksgiving Day (10:00 a.m.) services!

But in between those two big days, there are two more big days with big significance. For those days, heeding the message of November 3, we cry:

ALL SAINTS ON DECK!! ALL SAINTS ON DECK!

We are calling for all the saints at Faith Lutheran. All members of the Faith Family, Attention! We need you.

Most importantly, we need you at the Special Meeting of the Congregation on Sunday, November 24. We don't call these kinds of meetings often but when we do, it's important, and this one is important! The meeting will be during the Digging Deeper hour, from 9:15-10 a.m., in the Sanctuary. There is only one item on the agenda: after years of talking about it, is now the time for Faith Lutheran to start raising money for the Phase 2 building project? We are going to vote on whether or not we want to proceed with a capital campaign after the first of the year. Note: we won't be asking for any pledges at this meeting- that would happen with the capital campaign. This meeting is just to give the green light for a capital campaign to be organized and initiated. We need you there to tell us that you're on board!

Secondly, before we get to the big meeting on the November 24, we want to make sure everyone is up to speed. So we are also offering a special meeting the week before, on November 17, also during the Digging Deeper hour. This meeting will be a Phase 2 Refresher, led by members of the Phase 2 Building Committee (P2BC). They will update you on, and remind you about the Phase 2 plans. We hope to have some new visuals from the architect and answer any questions you have in advance of the Congregational Meeting that will be held the week after. In order for the visuals to be seen clearly, this meeting will be in the Faith Center.

So mark your calendars! Make the meetings a priority. You're a big part of the Faith Family, so we want you there! It's all saints on deck! Be there! See you in church (and at the meetings!)

Pastor Dave



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Stump THE Pastor

Stump the Pastor

Q: When you die, do you instantly arrive in heaven or do you have to travel there (takes time)?

A: This question from a confirmation student is especially fitting in this month when we celebrate All Saints' Day and thank God for the Christian witnesses in

our lives who have died. People often ask questions similar to this one, which shows that it is an ongoing concern for many.

The short answer is that the Bible says very little about the situation of those who have died until Jesus comes again in glory. There are fascinating testimonies from people who have had near-death experiences, but we cannot know if those are the same as actual, enduring death.

There have mostly been two views of the state of those who have died. The first is that death takes us outside of time, so the deceased arrive in heaven immediately. Yet, they still await the Last Day and "the resurrection of the body," as the Apostles' Creed confesses. Just as Jesus ascended into heaven with his resurrected body, so we will be raised "body and soul" to live in God's presence forever.

The other view is that the dead are in something like a deep and dreamless sleep, entirely unaware of time passing or anything occurring around them. In fact, the New Testament often uses the term "fallen asleep" to describe death. On the Last Day, then, the dead will be "awakened," body and soul at once, in the resurrection of the dead. Paul describes something like this in I Thessalonians 4:13-18.

The most intriguing description may be Revelation 6:9-11, where St. John "saw under the altar" in heaven the souls of those who had been martyred for their Christian faith. He heard them cry out to God, asking how long it will be before Christ's victory over sin, death and evil will be complete. In response, "they were each given a white robe and told to rest a little longer, until the number would be complete both of their fellow servants and their brothers and sisters..." This provides a picture of the "meantime" between death and the Last Day, assuring us that those who have died rest safely in God's care, aware that they are in His presence, yet still anticipating Christ's final victory and the resurrection of the dead into eternal life.

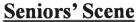
Whatever the case, Christians can be absolutely confident that those who die in Christ also rest in him, free from suffering, sorrow or any threat. We do not know all the specifics of that experience, but what we do know, beyond all doubt, is that "neither life nor death…nor anything else in all creation will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord." (Romans 8:38-39)

Stewardship Matters

Christian churches in America have too often reduced the call to Biblical stewardship to little more than an annual appeal to church members to increase their offerings in order to meet the annual budget. The fall preaching series that just concluded, *Giving All That We Have*, emphasized that, while Biblical stewardship certainly includes our finances, it concerns much more than that. It is a call to whole life management, based on the conviction

Stewardship A way of living

that our lives and everything in them are gifts from God. That awareness not only increases our sense of responsibility to manage our lives as faithfully as we can; it also frees us from clinging too tightly to anything in this world and from basing our identity and worth on what we acquire or achieve in this life. The ultimate goal of Biblical stewardship is the ability to put everything God has given us to work—responsibly, freely and joyfully—in gratitude to God, trust in His steadfast providing, and loving concern for the good of the world.





by Pr. Paulus Pilgrim

I would guess you are all enjoying this mild autumn weather. As we do, remember those whose homes and communities are being severely met with destructive storms. Most of us have family or friends in those areas of the country. Pray endlessly for

them. It will bring God Himself into their needs.

Our November Seniors' Potluck meeting is early in the month of November again this year. We will meet on Thursday, November 14, beginning at 12:00 noon. After our potluck dinner and fellowship we will hear a devotion. Then we will swing into action, packing Operation Christmas Child boxes and rolling bandages. Prior to the meeting, you can stock up on items to put in the boxes—BE SURE TO SEE AND FOLLOW THE LISTS. They are located in the narthex, or ask us.

You may also get a Thrivent card and use that to buy packing items, or bring to my office for someone else to do the shopping. You may bring money or checks for postage to send the boxes. There will be materials for rolling bandages as well.

Meghan's Place participants will also be present to enjoy the action with us. It should be a grand activity, all in the Name of our Savior, Jesus.

See you at SENIORS' POTLUCK! Bring a friend or two.



Great Commission Witness for the Persecuted and Ignored Reflections from Pastor Paul Knudson



Throughout history some of the greatest chapters in making Jesus Christ known and received have been in times when bearing such a witness often cost one's life. Many of us grew up hearing stories of first century Christians martyrs burning to death, lighting up the skies on the Appian Way are in our subconscious. Variations of that story are beyond number throughout Christian history. We thank God that our witness here in this country and other western countries rarely brings those awful consequences.

Today for those of us answering the call to bear the Great Commission witness of Jesus Christ, there is a seemingly different response. Today, in our increasingly secularized Western world, we are often simply ignored or possibly ridiculed as naïve. How do we respond to being deemed foolish at best, to be pushed aside by the "wise" of our day?

It would seem that we are too easily tempted to withdraw into our enclaves of quiet believers. Possibly some of our own family members are embarrassed by us "would be" witnesses. We could react with self-righteous rebuke or conclude our wandering loved one will grow out of this "phase."

Challenges before us are vastly different than those noted above, but we in our congregation and national family of Lutherans will do well to stop, study, pray, and heed our crucified and risen Lord and Savior's commission to prepare ourselves for witness in these different times and places. We do not go it alone. We prepare, come together for encouragement, and then we go out to lift up the name of Jesus above every name to the glory of God the Father. We will not be ashamed of the Good News of Jesus Christ. We are privileged to be his witnesses in our Jerusalem, Judea, Samaria, and ends of the earth.

Common Cup Ministry Diaper Drive

November is the month that Faith specifically collects diapers for Common Cup Ministries, though we can accept diapers any time of the year. Distribution of diapers takes place twice a month in Hutchinson and in Glencoe. Sizes most needed are 4,5,6, & pull-ups. If you

have an open bag that your child has outgrown those can be used also. Diapers can be dropped off at the church office anytime that the building is open.



Thanksgiving Eve Dessert & Pie Social

Please join us for a Dessert and Pie Social in the Faith Center on Thanksgiving Eve, Nov. 27, after the 6:30 p.m. worship service.

**We also need people to sign up to bring a dessert or pie and you can find a sign-up board at the church or call Marsha if you will bring your favorite to share.

Come for worship and stay for coffee, a treat, and fellowship!

Important: Service Opportunity

A group is needed to provide the Free Community Meal on Sunday, November 10. If your Faith Group, friend group, or family is interested in this service opportunity, there are funds available for the food. Please prayerfully consider how you could help, and let Marsha know if you can serve in this way.





From the FLCW

Thank you to all of the women (and men) who helped with the Women of the Word Annual Gathering in September. It was a great day with a lot of compliments on the space, the meal, speaker, and all parts of the day.

The FLCW Annual meeting is on the calendar for Sunday, November 10, immediately following the 10:10 a.m. worship services in the Faith Center. All women of Faith are invited for hot cider, appetizers and a short meeting to decide how to spend the money raised in 2024.

The 2025 Rummage Sale will be held May 1 and 2, with set up April 27-30, and clean up on May 3. Mark your calendar and spend the cold winter days purging your home of the things you could donate in the spring.

Mugs and Muffins

Mugs and Muffins is on the calendar for Saturday, November 2 at 9:30 a.m. You are encouraged to bring your favorite kitchen apron with you this month. No, you are not going to be sent to the kitchen to prepare your own breakfast goodies. Bring an apron, a mug, and a friend. See you there!





COMING TOGETHER IN SONG Joining in Music & Song | Joining in Ministry and Service



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SUNDAY | 3PM

Christ the King Lutheran 1040 South Grade Rd SW Hutchinson MN 55350

A MAJOR ANNUAL FUNDRAISING EVENT OF COMMON CUP MINISTRY

Featuring several music groups from our community coming together in support for a common cause!

Children, Youth, and Family Ministry Dates



Sunday School

We are wrapping up our theme on people who have been called and empowered by God. People like Esther, the disciples and us! After that, we will be learning about the Christmas story.

No Sunday School on December 1, 22, and 29.

B23 (Birth to Three)

We will be meeting on November 17. Children can go in the nursery while the adults meet in the conference room across the hall. Please note that there will not be B23 in December.

56er's

At 56er's, we play games, have snack, and see what the Bible says about a variety of questions. This month, we are covering the questions "Is Satan real?" and "How do I stand up to Satan?" 56er's were able to pack school bags with Dorothy Desens that will go to Orphan Grain Train.

No 56er's on November 6, 27, and December 4.

Aftershock

Aftershock is an afterschool ministry for Kindergarten—5th grade on the early release days. Kids come after school for snack time, crafts, games, Bible stories and worship.

If you are interested in volunteering, please contact Laura Stowman.

Our next dates are November 6 and December 4.

Christmas Program

Join us on December 15 at 4 p.m. in the Sanctuary as the 2nd—5th grade students retell the Christmas story through acting and song.

Join us earlier in the day as the Preschool—1st grade students celebrate the birth of Jesus with a few special songs during the 10:10 a.m. Sanctuary worship service.



Confirmation Mentor Meeting

Wednesday, November 6, 2024
Confirmands will meet with their mentors on this
Wednesday in November.

FLY Night

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

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.





Attitude of Gratitude!

Fall is here and we are quickly approaching the busy season of Thanksgiving. With that holiday comes an attitude of gratitude which is easier to say than to implement. In my field of working with teens, they are always quick to complain. How do you encourage an attitude of gratitude with your teens and kids? I hope to be able to provide some insight!

ASK and EXPECT AN ANSWER! In my work with teens, they often like to be let off the hook. Ask and expect them to answer you with honesty about what they are grateful for. And no, the answer is never "I am grateful for nothing" or "I don't know." Keep pressing into them and encourage them to have an answer. This can become a daily practice in your home by keeping a list or sharing around the dinner table!

POINT TO GOD! We often forget about all of the good things that God has given us in our lives. How can we start to notice all of the gifts that God has given us?

LIMIT COMPLAINING! So often, we are such complainers. Notice how I said "we?" I am guilty of this too. Teach this by being an example, because, so often, teens and kids model what they learn from their parents or other key adults in their lives. You have the power to do something about that!

Gratitude changes our outlook on life when things get hard. 1 Thessalonians 5:18 says "Give thanks in all circumstances, for this is the will of Christ Jesus in you." *All circumstances* is a hard ask, if you were to ask my opinion on it. How am I supposed to be grateful when I have a family member going through a major medical crisis, struggling with friends, stress at work, or so much more? I've walked this road. Not every day is good, but there is good in every day. Every day we can find something to praise God for and I think that attitude will change the way we look at this life because God is abundant in His good gifts to us! And that is worth having an attitude of gratitude.

Kristen Durst, Director of Youth and Family Ministries
Laura Stowman, Director of Children and Family Ministries

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 through three support groups offered here. These groups are not just for Faith members so feel free to share this information with friends and family members who may benefit from attending one of these support groups.



1) NEW Grief Support Group Starting Soon!

A new four-session **grief support group** will be offered soon. Each session meets on a Thursday, at 4:00 p.m. in the office area conference room. The dates are:

October 24 October 31 November 7 November 14

Anyone who has experienced a loss, member or not, is invited to participate. Grief is not only for someone's death. There are many kinds of losses and they all cause grieving. Grief must be resolved before one can live a productive life. Groups are a great place to come to grips with anguished feelings over grieving. Welcome!

2) FACe Cancer Support Group

The cancer support group is helping many people, and we have several new members this year. If you, a loved one, or friend are fighting cancer or a caregiver, please make sure they know the FACe group is there to help! We meet the 2nd and 4th Thursdays at 10:00AM in the upstairs conference room here 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.

3) Caregiver Support Group

The Caregiver Support Group is currently meeting monthly on the third Thursday of each month at 4 p.m. in the office conference room. This group is for people who are the primary caregiver for a friend or family member. You can contact Pr. Paulus Pilgrim or Marsha Schmit for more information by calling 320-587-2093.

Faith has a number of books and resources used by the Grief, Caregiver, and FACe Cancer 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.



SNOW BIRDS

For those of you who head south for the winter, this is your reminder to keep looped in with all that is happening at Faith Lutheran while you are gone. You can stay "in the know" by making sure the church has your temporary address so we can send newsletters, envelopes, and tax statements to you. If you would prefer to get your newsletters by e-mail, we can do that, too. Also, if you are on Facebook, make sure to follow FaithLutheranHutchinson, you can watch the services via the YouTube Page at

faithlchutch, and of course, you can always check on the latest news by going to the Faith website at Faithlc.com.

Finally, if you don't want giving envelopes sent to your temporary address, let the office know and those mailings can be stopped. If you prefer, you can still give while away by going to the website **Faithlc.com/Give-2/** or using this QR Code.





Saints Baptized at Faith since November 2023

Elliott Baum Justin Beck Aaron Burkstrand Jr. Reese Burkstrand Camden Draeger Aaliyah Flores Alexander Flores Armando Flores Aryahna Flores Camdyn Hirman Treylon Hirman Declan Icenhower Asa Kamrath Ian Knoll Berkley Krause **Easton Kurth** Joshua Lauer Phillip Lauer Claire McLain Kylie Nueberger Harper Petersen Jake Petersen Lincoln Petersen Rory Petersen Watson Schloeder Scarlett Schmidt Alaina Thompson Bjorn Stowman **Laketon Trout** Aiyana Watts Olive Yurek



Funerals of Saints at Faith since November 2023

Orvis Baumgardt Tammie Dehn Darlene Erickson Trevor Evans Kenneth Holler Janet Kilian Raymond Krueger Phyllis Lamp Howard Madsen **Dorin Martin** Richard Nagy Ardell Novotny Alvin Otto Roselvn Peterson Jordan Ristow Marian Skaar Larry Sorensen Marlin Torgerson Rose Wagner

Names in italics were not members of FLC.



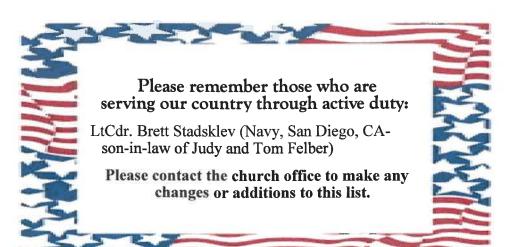
Students Confirmed in their Faith on October 27

Brody Adams Ryeleigh Bening Vincent Burkstrand Eli Duering Aryhana Flores Morgan Gehrke Jacob Hanson Kellen Karg Lukas Liepold Sydney Loe **Brooklynn Merkins Zachary Padrnos** Andrew Pesavento Aiden Rath Malea Rude AnnaBeth Schiller Maddox Schumacher Lily Solien Makaila Wakefield



Praying this month for the 2023-2024 Saints and Confirmands of Faith Lutheran Church

<u>Please Remember in Prayer</u>







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

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Paulus Pilgrim, Visitation	320-234-9753 (home)	paulusp@faithlc.com
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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 Ser	vices Coordinator	320-587-2093

Buffalo Lake Nursing Home Kathy Fabel

Cedar Crest - Silver Lake Patricia Lambert

Cokato Nursing Home Clara Betker

Harmony River Wilbur and Trudy Johnson

> **Oaks** Phyllis Blum

Caroline Ficker Alice Poshek

Pines Elaine Blade Maynard and Shirley Holtz Frances Olson

> Woodstone 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

