



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 TV 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



As I study and teach the Bible, I am often struck by little details that are not theologically important, but do provide fascinating insights into life in the ancient world. In many ways, life was much more fragile, violent and scary than life as we live it, and the contrast shows just how good we have it today.

One example is in II Kings 20. It begins by noting that King Hezekiah of Judah “became sick and was at the point of death.” The prophet Isaiah visited him and confirmed that his life was about to end, but Hezekiah prayed earnestly for God to heal him and preserve his life. Before Isaiah was even out of the palace, God sent him back to tell Hezekiah that he would recover and live for 15 more years. Only then does the text record that the cause of Hezekiah’s mortal illness was a boil! It was likely infected, but today that would be easily treated with antibiotics. Then, it was life-threatening for Hezekiah.

That text is a reminder that, through most of human history, daily life was haunted by death. Mortality rates for infants and children were sky-high. Childbirth posed a severe danger to women. Infectious diseases ran wild and workplace safety was all but a contradiction in terms. People lived their whole lives surrounded by death and had an inescapable sense that their own death could come any time.

By God’s rich providence, that is not the case today. Better public health, technology and modern medicine have managed to push death to the outer margins of daily life. Because of that, when illness and death do still strike, they can devastate us even more than they did earlier generations. Threats to life seem so abnormal to us, so far out of our daily experience that it is not hard for us to live mostly in denial of death, even though we all know that it will claim everyone eventually.

Because death no longer stalks daily life as it once did, the good news of Easter may not astound or relieve us as it did earlier generations either. Since death is not a daily enemy, the conquering of death may not seem as relevant, significant or life-changing. Even the proclamation that Jesus rose from the dead can sound like old news or a distant event that has little effect on us or our own lives.

The truth, however, is just the opposite. St. Paul’s assertion in I Corinthians 15 that “the last enemy to be defeated is death” is as true now as it ever was. In fact, as we experience the harsh reality of death more rarely, the power of its enmity only grows, so that when it does assail us, our need to be reassured by the promise of Christ’s victory over death is greater than ever.

Continued on page 2

Inside

Lent & Holy Week Music	2
Stump the Pastor, LoF Support Groups	3
Seniors’ Potluck Financial Update	4
Children and Youth Ministries and Calendar	Insert
Missions	5
Adult Education Rummage Sale	6
Staff Directory Prayer Requests	7

Pastor's Page continued from pg. 1

So listen again to these amazing, life transforming truths that also come from I Corinthians 15. "In fact, Christ has been raised from the dead, the first fruits of those who have died. For since death came through a human being, the resurrection of the dead has also come through a human being; for as all die in Adam, so all will be made alive in Christ." That is a promise we can live with; indeed, that is a promise we can even die with. May that good news of Good Friday and Easter fill you with confident hope and the peace that passes all understanding. See you in church!

Grace and peace,
Pastor Scott Grorud

Lent and Holy Week Schedule



Mid-week Lenten services will continue on Wednesday evenings at 6:30 p.m. through April 9.

Holy Week will follow, beginning with Palm Sunday on April 13, Maundy Thursday (including first communion for sixth-grade students) on April 17, Good Friday on April 18 (noon service at FLC and 6:30 p.m. service at Christ the King), and Easter on April 20 (services at 6:00, 8:00, 9:30 and 11:00 a.m.) Please put these dates on your calendars now so that you and your family are

able to participate in the solemn journey to the cross, followed by the joyful celebration of the resurrection of our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ, on Easter morning.

Palm Sunday Breakfast

The FLY youth will serve breakfast on Palm Sunday, April 13, from 8:30-11:30 a.m. in the Faith Center. This breakfast is a fundraiser to support this summer's mission trip to Indianapolis, Indiana. Come and enjoy a yummy hot breakfast and support the youth at the same time!

Another way you can support the youth is through the Coffee Fundraiser that will conclude on April 27. Come and enjoy a specialty coffee served by the youth.



Messiah 2025

Join us on May 4 for the return of Handel's *Messiah* performed by the joint efforts of Christ the King and Faith Lutheran churches with other Hutchinson and surrounding community members. This sacred work contains some of classical music's most recognized and beloved movements such as *How Beautiful Are the Feet*, *All We Like Sheep*, and the world-renowned *Hallelujah* Chorus. This year's concert will include all movements of Part II with special guest soloists performing alongside the mass choir and orchestra. Part II retells the beautiful story of Christ's Passion which makes this event appropriate to follow the Easter celebration. Come and listen to Handel's most famous works in a sacred setting that has long stood the test of time. You may even find yourself singing along!

Event Details

When: Sunday, May 4, 2025 | 3:00 - 4:00 p.m.

Where: Christ the King Lutheran Church, Hutchinson, MN

Cost: Free; a free will offering will be accepted at the door

Questions: Contact Austin Willhite, Music and Worship Director, Faith Lutheran Church

STUMP THE PASTOR

Stump the Pastor

Q: Mark 15:15 says Pilate handed Jesus over to be crucified "after flogging him." What is that?

A: Flogging was a cruel and severe public whipping. In a commentary on Mark, Walter Wessel writes, "Flogging was no light punishment. The Romans first stripped the victim and tied his hands to a post above his head. The whip was made of several pieces of leather with pieces of bone and lead embedded near the ends. Two men, one on each side of the victim, usually did the flogging." Older Bible translations refer to the lashes as "stripes," reflecting the scars they left on the prisoner's back.

After quoting an explicit medical description of the damage flogging caused, Wessel notes, "It is not surprising that victims of Roman floggings seldom survived." He also points out that "flogging did not necessarily precede crucifixion." The fact that Jesus was flogged may explain why he died much more quickly than expected. It is likely that he was mortally weakened before he was ever nailed to the cross.

In Deuteronomy 25, the Law of Moses also prescribes flogging for certain offenses, but limits it to 40 lashes, a small mercy that Roman law did not include. In actual practice, there was a concern that those doing the whipping might lose count, so the flogging always stopped at 39 lashes to make sure they did not exceed 40. It is ironic that the commitment to obey the law precisely far eclipsed any worry or compassion for the suffering of the prisoner.

Leap of Faith Capital Campaign

As of mid-March, the Leap of Faith campaign had received pledges from about 160 households in the family of Faith. The campaign's goal was to receive 500 responses out of the 700+ households in the church. The *good news* is that those 160 pledges were mostly very generous. Until the campaign receives a broader response, however, it is really difficult to know what steps to take next.

If you have not yet returned a Leap of Faith pledge, please do so. Remember that a pledge is not a legal contract. It is only a statement of intent. Even for those who intend to provide no support at all, it is still vital to know that in order to be able to plan accordingly. **Thank You** for joining the family of Faith Lutheran in pursuing the vision for ministry God has put before us.



Faith Lutheran Church Support Groups



When life challenges us, it can be hard not to be afraid or despair. You are surrounded by many who care for you: friends, family, your brothers and sisters in Jesus Christ. They can help and show God's love and caring for us, His children. If you need help, seek out family, friends, fellow Christians, or one of the support groups we have here at Faith. Remember God loves you and is with you always! Contact the pastoral care team by calling 320-587-2093 for more information or to join one of the following groups:

1) NEW Grief Support Group Session- A new grief support group session will be held four Thursdays in May, meeting on May 1, 8, 22, and 29 at 4:00 p.m. in the office conference room. If you have recently lost a loved one, been divorced, or continue to suffer from some kind of loss, perhaps even want to repeat a former grief group, you are welcome to attend this confidential support gathering. You do not need to be a member of Faith Lutheran—in case you know people you'd like to refer to the group, you can even come with them. If you aren't sure if this group is right for you, please call either Pastor Paulus or Marsha Schmit at the church to learn more.

Grief Support
Group



2) FACe Cancer Support Group (Meets the second and fourth Thursday of each month at 10 a.m.)
3) Caregiver Support Group (Meets the third Thursday of each month at 4 p.m.)

Seniors' Scene

by Pr. Paulus Pilgrim



Easter is quite late this year, falling on Sunday, April 20. Early or late, what a festival it is! As we recall and ponder the drama of Jesus' rising from His tomb, we hear in the background of our minds and hearts what Jesus promised for you and me, as he said in John 6:10, "This is indeed the will of my Father, that all who see the Son and believe in Him may have eternal life; and I will raise them up on the last day."

That is certainly an every day brightener. We wake up every morning in the light of this promise. This life on earth is not all there is to our life. We retire each night in the peace this promise brings: The best is yet to come!

In the meantime, we have Seniors' Potluck. Four days after Easter, on Thursday, April 24, we will meet for our delicious monthly potluck meal and to hear from an astute speaker, Pastor David Wollan. You know him. Soon he'll be wearing a clerical shirt with lettering—not a Faith Lutheran Church logo, but, you guessed it, a "Minnesota Vikings" logo, possibly a pastoral stole with the same. Who knows?

His topic: "Ten things you may not know about Faith Lutheran Church." (Hmm...do you suppose Dave will propose putting the Vikings on our mission budget?) Anyway, it should be interesting and worth bringing a friend along.

SO—remember Easter, and the promise it brings to you. Four days later, remember Seniors' Potluck, April 24, at 12:00 noon. See you there!



Stewardship Matters

One common complaint about churches is that "they're always asking for money." That actually isn't true. If you want a place that is *always* asking for money, try a resort hotel or a theme park!

But why is there any talk at all about money in the church? Again, the most common assumption is that congregations need to pay their bills and are likely spending way too much money. In fact, most churches operate quite frugally, but it is true that they rely entirely on members' giving, so receiving offerings is necessary for them to function.

That is not, however, the main reason for examining how we all use our money. The driving purpose, instead, is that money and possessions are such powerful, good gifts from God—and that is just the trouble with them. They are so powerful and can do so much that they can easily become our god, the place where we actually put our trust and sense of security. The Bible's chief worry about money is its propensity to become an idol, rather than a tool that God provides for us to use.

That makes money and possessions a key *spiritual* issue and a core *theological* concern. It is why Jesus talked more about money than he did, for example, about prayer. And it is the reason why any church that is *not* talking about money is actually dropping the ball.

Have you given up your landline?



We have found that we have some "out of service" phone numbers in the church records. If you have eliminated your landline, please update your information with the office by filling out an "Update Your Information" card in the pews, e-mailing office@faithlc.com, or by calling the office at 320-587-2093. Thank you for updating your information and helping us stay in touch with you!

Celebrating Over Ten Years of Partnering with an Amazing Congregation

Reflections from Pastor Paul Knudson

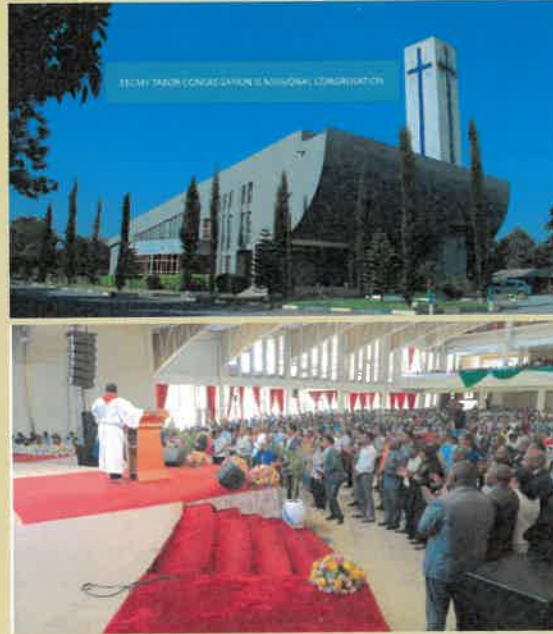
It has been one of the special joys of my life to have had a part in bringing the Augustana District into partnership with the Tabor Congregation in Hawassa, Ethiopia, and its amazing outreach witnessing to our Lord Jesus Christ. This began with our first trip to Tabor, when it had a much more modest worship facility. Here you see this congregation with thousands of members in a beautiful sanctuary reminding one of Noah's ark.

The leaders recently sent us a marvelous report of their ongoing outreach throughout Ethiopia and now they are moving into Ghana. FLC is a leading congregation in the Augustana District continuing, after ten

years, to multiply their witness. Instead of creating dependence on us, we are assured that we have made possible their faithful outreach efforts. Our support goes towards their outreach efforts only.

One special note relates to the sad reality that, while we complain about the inflationary impact on our lives, evangelists sent out by the Tabor congregation are given very small stipends, under \$100 per month, while facing inflation many times greater than we are experiencing.

Pray with us for their ongoing faithful witness and give thanks for this congregation's Spirit-inspired witness to our Lord Jesus Christ.



A Mission Update from the Faith Quilters



One of the missions supported by the women of FLC is Global Health Ministries. GHM has a warehouse in Fridley, MN. They are currently serving 10 African countries. In 2024, they were running 271 clinics, hospitals, nursing schools, dispensaries and health programs. About 272,423 pounds of supplies and equipment were shipped from Fridley to Africa. Community health programs served 495,671 people. The quilts made at Faith were wrapped around reconditioned medical equipment to protect it. The medical facility received the equipment and a lucky family received a quilt.



Newborn kits are also donated from Faith through GHM. Those kits are so coveted that new mothers will come to seek medical personnel just to get a kit.

Our quilters also donate items through Orphan Grain Train. Food, clothing and medical supplies are delivered to this organization in Mayer, MN. They ship supplies to 69 different countries, including the United States. The 56er's group recently packed 45 school bags full of school supplies. In many African countries students are not allowed to attend school unless they have all of the needed supplies. A person stands at the door and checks school bags. Children missing so much as a pencil are not allowed into class, so these gifts are so important to them. Other items donated from Faith through OGT are quilts and pillowcase dresses.

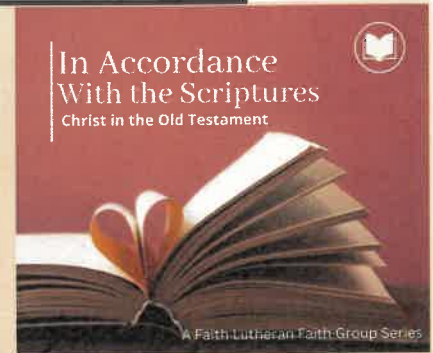


Thank you for all of the items donated to Faith, to all the hands who make and pack these precious items, and to those who take the time to deliver these items to Fridley and Mayer.

“Faith Seeks Understanding” Continuing Learning Opportunities for Adults

New Faith Group Series launching after Easter!

When Jesus burst onto the scene in the beginning of the New Testament it was a surprise to everyone, and when he was crucified, died, and was buried it changed the world. Yet, the world should have known, because everything he did was “in accordance with the Scriptures.” This new Faith Group series is actually a refreshing of one of our oldest Faith Group Series, as we take another look at how Christ is present in the Old Testament. Join with an existing group or create a new group and enjoy the relaxed and flexible format to dig into the Bible with others!



We gather to meet once a week for an hour,
By studying His word, we gain strength and spiritual power.
We can talk about our ups, our downs, whatever we want to share,
because we know these faithful friends will always be there.

These friends are fun to be with, they are kind and they are good,
God has brought us together to form our Faith Sister and Brotherhood.

by: Bonnie Schmeling

Contact Marsha Schmit to join a group or to start a new one: marshas@faithlc.com or 320-587-2093.



Annual FLC Rummage Sale

The FLC Annual Rummage Sale is a fundraiser organized and run by the Faith Lutheran Church Women. Proceeds support the mission and ministry of FLC as well as a variety of local, national, and international mission projects.



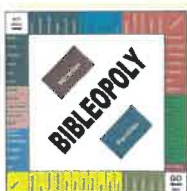
Ways you can help!

Sunday, April 27 - After worship, meet at 11:30 a.m. to move tables, items from the crawl space up to the third floor, display racks from the garage, and room dividers from Foundation to the third floor. The furniture in the gathering space outside of the offices also needs to be moved down the music hall. (Great job for families with middle and high school students who want to lend a hand.)

Monday, April 28 & Tuesday April 29 - donations are accepted, sorted and prepared for sale from 8 a.m. - 5 p.m. and **Wednesday, April 30** donations are accepted from 8 a.m. - noon; preparations for sale until 5 p.m. (People are needed to help folks unload their cars and run donations to the third floor via the elevator. This job includes time to visit and drink coffee.)

Thursday, May 1 - the sale is open from 8 a.m.-7 p.m., and **Friday, May 2**, from 8 a.m.- 6 p.m., with a \$3 bag sale from 4-6 p.m.

Saturday, May 3 - Helping hands to pack-up left over items and return furniture to its rightful place from 9-11 a.m. (Young bodies that can bend and lift are a great help with this task.)



Bibleopoly Check-In

How is your Bibleopoly reading going? Have you been getting your stickers on a board?
Congratulations! Are you learning anything new?
We would love to hear how it is going.

Maybe you have stalled out? Did you never find a good time to start? Now is a great time to start or jump back on the reading wagon. Even if you just find time to read one book this week (or this month), read it and get a sticker on one of the boards. Keep on reading!

Support the mission and ministry of Faith Lutheran Church by using this QR code or link to reach the FLC online giving page Faithlc.com



SCAN TO GIVE
TO FLC OR GO TO
FAITHLC.
COM/GIVE-2/

Mark Your Calendars for All the Summer Fun!

All registrations can be found on the Children or Youth pages at <https://www.faihlc.com/>



Mystery Bus

June 24—26 from 8 a.m.—5 p.m.

This mini mission trip is for 5th—7th grade students. Each day we meet at Faith Lutheran Church, then take off to our service sites and fun-filled activities. Cost is \$100. Students can get \$10 off if they volunteer to help with VBS for the entire week.

Vacation Bible School

June 30—July 3 from 9 a.m.—noon at Christ the King Lutheran Church

Each summer, Faith and Christ the King Lutheran Church partner together to host VBS for Preschool—4th grade students. Cost is \$20 (\$50 family max.) At True North VBS, children will learn that we can trust Jesus when we wonder, feel alone, feel powerless, and need hope.



High School Mission Trip

July 11-19

This summer, 8th—12th grade students are going to Indianapolis, Indiana to serve with YouthWorks. Registration information can be found on the Faith Lutheran Youth Instagram page. Students can get \$25 off if they volunteer to help with VBS for the entire week.

Bible Camp

Outdoor ministry is a wonderful experience for children as they grow in their faith. That is why Faith wants to help families bring their children to Bible camp through camperships.



The last few years we have been sending students to **Ingham Okobojo Lutheran Bible Camps** in Wallingford, IA.

This summer, Faith and Christ the King are attending **the week of July 13 – 18.**

Follow the link for more information and how to register for Bible camp: <https://www.okobojo.org/youth>



Another favorite Bible camp that our confirmation students have attended for retreats and absolutely love is **Inspiration Point** in Vining, MN. There is no specific week Faith is attending, but I encourage you to talk with friends who are interested. Follow the link for more information and how to register for Bible camp:

<https://ipoint.org/camps-retreats/summer-camps>



Day Camp

August 4—7 from 9 a.m.—noon at Faith Lutheran Church

Another summer ministry where Faith and Christ the King partner together, but this time we have camp counselors from Ingham Okobojo Lutheran Bible Camp lead a Day Camp for the Kindergarten – 5th grade students. Cost is \$25.

Children, Youth, and Family Ministry Dates



Sunday School

This month, students will learn about the events of Holy Week and when Jesus appears to His disciples after Easter.

No Sunday School on April 20.



Sprouts

Sign-up to help with Sprouts via this QR code! This is a time when preschool—1st graders leave during the sermon at the Foundation worship service for an age-appropriate lesson.

56er's

At 56er's, we play games, have a snack, and see what the Bible says about a variety of questions. This month, we are covering the questions, "How Did People Who Lived Before Jesus Get to Heaven?", "Easter: How Do I Know Jesus Really Came Back to Life?", "If God Forgives, Can I Do Whatever I Want?" and "Which Is It: One God or Three?"

No 56er's on April 2 and May 7.

Aftershock

Aftershock is an afterschool ministry for Kindergarten—5th grade students 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 date is May 7.



Confirmation

This school year, our confirmation students are learning about the Bible and are about to begin the New Testament. Confirmation meets on Wednesdays from 3:45 p.m.—5:30 p.m. with hang time right before.

Mentor Meeting—Wednesday, May 7, 2025

FLY Night

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

AP Theo

Sophomores—Seniors meet on Tuesday mornings from 6 –7 a.m. at Caribou to discuss what they are learning from their book study on *The Reason for God* by Tim Keller.

Sign Up for the Mission Trip!

We are going to Indianapolis, Indiana, July 11—19, 2025. Registration information can be found on the Faith Lutheran Youth Instagram page.



Questions? Contact us!

Kristen Durst—Director of Youth and Family Ministries—kristenm@faithlc.com

Laura Stowman—Director of Children and Family Ministries—lauras@faithlc.com

Please Remember in Prayer



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

Buffalo Lake Nursing Home

Kathy Fabel

Cedar Crest – Silver Lake

Patricia Lambert

Cokato Nursing Home

Clara Betker

Harmony River

Alice Hansen

Shirley Holtz

Wilbur Johnson

DuWayne Peterson

Oaks

Phyllis Blum

Caroline Ficker

Carol Otto

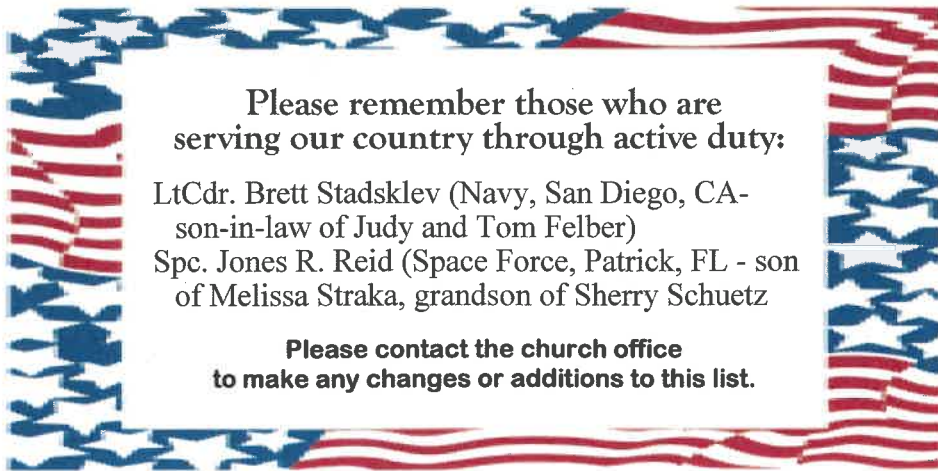
Alice Poshek

Pines

Elaine Blade

Woodstone

Cyndy Ollrich



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

LtCdr. Brett Stadskev (Navy, San Diego, CA - son-in-law of Judy and Tom Felber)

Spc. Jones R. Reid (Space Force, Patrick, FL - son of Melissa Straka, grandson of Sherry Schuetz)

Please contact the church office to make any changes or additions to this list.

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, Missions Ministry 320-587-2227 (home) paulk@faithlc.com

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

Staff

Jeff Amundson, Pastoral Associate 320-587-2093 (office) jeffa@faithlc.com

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

Faith Lutheran Church
335 Main Street South
Hutchinson, Minnesota 55350

Non-Profit
US POSTAGE PAID
Hutchinson MN
Permit No 5

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

Put mailing label here



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

