

I have a book from a granddaughter, *Tell Me About Your Life Grandpa*. It has questions such as, "Where were you born?" and as "What was your first date like?" Writing answers to all the questions is a lot of work, but I'm glad she wants to know more about her heritage.

It also makes me more aware of my past. So many people and experiences went into shaping who I am. I am awed by how God was guiding me.

It's fun to reminisce. If you want to "fire up" a group of elderly people, just bring pictures or samples of things we used to use' things like a non-electric iron, an old corn sheller, a milk separator, sleds and toboggans... to mention a few.

Deuteronomy 32:7 reads, "Remember the days of old; consider the years long past; ask your father, and he will inform you; your elders, and they will tell you."

"Remember when.....?" can make one ready to hear a memory that might stimulate your humor or your sense of awe at how far the world has come in just my lifetime.

So...do the elderly live in the past? Some say they are just "old fashioned." But hear this one phrase from Psalm 71, showing that seniors can also look to the future.

Psalm 71:18, "So even to old age and gray hairs, O God, do not forsake me, until I proclaim your might to all the generations to come."

This verse speaks of a people of God who realize they leave more than an estate legacy. They leave a **legacy** of their faith. Yes, a legacy of how they loved to play with their grandchildren and such is good. But imagine how far beyond your death a spiritual legacy goes, when it reads something like this: he worshiped every Sunday, she taught Sunday School into her old age. A spiritual legacy usually comes from something faithful children of God do out of love for the One who saved and daily sustains them. It is how he or she wants to be remembered.

I'm thinking of the fact that I am old. I am not likely to see the completion of our Leap of Faith project. I will only see the architect's plans of the new sanctuary and added wing. Should I then withhold my monetary gifts and support, and use them to satisfy myself? Shall I sit back and say that the facilities we have now have been good for a long time and should be just fine? What kind of legacy is that? What if those who built our current sanctuary would have said that? How about a faith legacy that recognizes that our Leap of Faith looks to a future that allows for adequate facilities to nurture continued growth of people and programs that will grow the faith of those who come.



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



Inside

Senior Spotlight	2
Stump the Pastor Support Groups	3
Music Ministry	4
Children and Youth Ministries and Calendar	Insert
Seniors' Scene & Financials	5
Missions & More	6
Staff Directory Prayer Requests	7

Continued on page 3





My interview with Dennis and Sandy Langehaug started off with an April Fool's joke played on me. It set the mood as to what was to be a very enjoyable visit, sharing stories and personal feelings with two very special people.

Sandy grew up in the Brownton area where she lived on a farm with her parents and one sister. When I asked about her faith as a youth, she was very honest in saying she really didn't think much about it. You went to church and Sunday School every Sunday, not necessarily because you wanted to do so, but it was just expected of you. But church was not fun. She graduated from Brownton High in 1962 and married shortly after. This marriage was blessed with one daughter. However, the marriage did not last.

Dennis was born and raised in Bottineau, North Dakota, with his parents and one brother. His early memories of his faith journey were very different from Sandy's. Church every Sunday, sitting in the same pew, and there was no

excuse not to be in church because Dennis wanted to be there. It was a special place for him. He had good confirmation memories, but it wasn't an easy time and then there was the public examination in front of the entire congregation. I'm certain many of you reading this remember that duty before confirmation. He graduated from high school in 1958, then attended two years of Jr. College in Bottineau, spent two years in the military and then completed his education at Mayville College where he graduated with a double major in Business and Physical Education with a minor in Social Studies. He taught in North Dakota for four years but then was drawn to Howard Lake, MN. He taught there for twelve years before going into the crop insurance business, which he is still doing 47 years later. Unfortunately, Dennis' first marriage did not last, either. He was a divorced dad with three teenage children. Both Dennis and Sandy admit these were hard years for them, but then the moment happened when Sandy and her aunt were having lunch at the Blue Note in Winsted and who should walk into the establishment but a man who Sandy noted was worth taking a second look at. They both agreed it was love at first sight. Before lunch was over, Dennis had a phone number on a little piece of napkin and less than a week later he called that number. Love was in the air.

Sandy and her first husband were members of Peace Lutheran, but were advised by the pastor after their divorce that it would be better if one of them were to join another church. Sandy made the move and joined Faith Lutheran. She remembers fondly how welcoming Pastor Skeie was to her. After Dennis and Sandy decided to marry, Faith was the perfect church to call home. They were married at Faith in 1986 and have been members ever since. They both agreed that many changes have happened in the years since then, Faith on Grove, the many remodeling projects of the building, saying goodbye to pastors and calling new pastors, Phase 1 and the Leap of Faith project stand out as exciting happenings. Dennis referred to Faith as being "alive with the Gospel" and they so agreed on the wonderful youth programs for which our church is known. I asked if they could think of anything that they might want to see changed and both were very quick to state no, things are very good right now, starting with the pastors, staff, and the many wonderful people in the congregation, those they know and the many that they haven't met yet.

Different than her childhood memories of church, Sandy stated without missing a beat, "I want to be here, I need to be here and I definitely will be here." When I asked her why she thought things had changed for her, she stated she is smarter than she was as a child. Many more life experiences have happened and she realizes life has educated her. Dennis added the Holy Spirit has had lots of time to work in him.

This was the perfect time for me to ask Dennis about his term on church council as vice-president and then congregational president. He told me the story about getting the call from the nominating committee asking if he would consider having his name added to the ballot. He didn't really want the job. He wasn't a public speaker, and he was kind of old for a two-year commitment. He had all kinds of reasons to say no, but after talking to Sandy, ten minutes later he called back to the church and agreed to take on the task. He referred to his time on council as a blessing.

Our time together was drawing to a close, but as I sat with Dennis and Sandy I came to the realization that no matter how good things look from the outside, every family has trials. Life is not easy. But here is a couple who have taken those trials and created a blended family that love and respect each other. What an honor it was for me to witness their story and share it with you.

Submitted by Virginia Brodd

Pastor's Page continued from pg. 1

In our Christian heritage we hear much about deliverance. God delivered the Israelites from the Egyptians, remembered each Passover. He delivered His people from the powerful Philistines through a young man who took on the Philistine giant named Goliath. The list of God's deliverances is long, but the greatest of all is that by the death and resurrection of our Savior, Jesus Christ, you are delivered from your sin and death. We are assured that Jesus bore our sinfulness and took it to death on a horrible cross. So we are free, free to make this greatest promise from God known to all. That is our purpose as children of God. That is a legacy worth giving my all, no matter how old I am.

Pastor Paulus Pilgrim

Stump the Pastor

Stump the pastor

Q: In John 19:31, the religious leaders asked Pilate to break the legs of Jesus and the two men crucified with him because the next day was an important Sabbath. How does that connect?

A: Crucifixion was a horrific method of execution by torture. Because of the angle at which people hung on a cross, they had to lift their torso in order to take each breath.

As their strength waned, it became harder to do that and eventually they died from suffocation. If their legs were broken, it would be nearly impossible for them to lift their bodies, so they would die more quickly.

The normal practice in the Roman Empire was to leave dead bodies hanging on the cross as a warning and deterrent to similar crimes. Deuteronomy 21:23, however, declares that if a person was executed and "hung on a tree, the corpse must not remain all night upon the tree." The Jewish religious leaders wanted to be sure Jesus would die before sunset, which was the start of the sabbath day and occurred during the Passover festival, so that his body could be removed from the cross and not defile the festival. So they asked Pilate to break the legs of Jesus and the two thieves to hasten their death, but when the soldiers went to do so, they found that Jesus "was already dead (so) they did not break his legs." (John 19:33)

That reveals a divine message behind the religious leaders' request. John 19:36 quotes one of God's commands about the lambs that were eaten at Passover. "None of his bones shall be broken." (Exodus 12:46) The first chapter of John's Gospel records John the Baptist calling Jesus "the Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world." The fact that the religious leaders' petition to have Jesus' legs broken was not carried out tied John the Baptist's description of Jesus back to the Passover lamb and prophetically confirmed that Jesus was the once-for-all sacrifice to redeem the world.

Faith Lutheran Church Support Groups

Grief Support Group



1) NEW Grief Support Group Session A new grief support group session will be held four Thursdays in May, meeting on May 1, 8, 15, and 22 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 any 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.

- 2) FACe Cancer Support Group (Meets the second and fourth Thursday morning of each month at 10 a.m.)
- 3) Caregiver Support Group (Will not meet over the summer)

Earth and All Stars! LBW #558

This boisterous text found in the "Celebration and Jubilation" section of the Lutheran Book of Worship (our green hymnal) and set to a rigorously fitting tune is one of my favorite lyric and melody combinations in classic



hymnody. Despite its brilliant message spanning six stanzas, we do not often sing this hymn in worship. Each verse personifies several facets of creation from rushing planets to sounding wisdom all joining together in praising God. Still, we don't often choose this hymn because it falls short of proclaiming the Gospel. That doesn't make it a bad hymn, just not as fitting as many others that do speak the truth of grace through faith by God's Word alone, which consumes most of the focus in our corporate worship. I think this hymn is more fitting as a prayer. After all, the words do echo those of Psalm 98, "O sing to the Lord a new song, for he has done marvelous things" and Psalms are the prayerful hymns of the Bible. Join me as we reflect in prayer on the verses of "Earth and All Stars!"

Verse 1: Earth and all stars! Loud rushing planets! Sing to the Lord a new song! Oh, victory! Loud shouting army! Sing to the Lord a new song!

Father in heaven, thank you for eternal life. Thank you for the sacrifice of your Son. Thank you for loving us always. Amen!

Verse 2: Hail, wind, and rain! Loud blowing snowstorms! Sing to the Lord a new song! Flowers and trees! Loud rustling dry leaves! Sing to the Lord a new song!

Father in heaven, thank you for your creation. Thank you for your breath in our lungs. Thank you for providing all that we need. Amen!

Verse 3: Trumpet and pipes! Loud clashing cymbals! Sing to the Lord a new song! Harp, lute, and lyre! Loud humming cellos! Sing to the Lord a new song!

Father in heaven, thank you for expression and creativity. Thank you for inspiring artists and musicians with the power of your Holy Spirit so that their art may bring glory to you. Amen!

Verse 4: Engines and steel! Loud pounding hammers! Sing to the Lord a new song! Limestone and beams! Loud building workers! Sing to the Lord a new song!

Father in heaven, thank you for science and engineering that help people and build the church. Thank you for our sanctuaries and worship spaces where we can gather in your presence. Thank you for all those who labor in work for your kingdom on earth. Amen!

Verse 5: Classrooms and labs! Loud boiling test tubes! Sing to the Lord a new song! Athlete and band! Loud cheering people! Sing to the Lord a new song!

Father in heaven, thank you for education, for teachers and coaches who lead young minds to your truth. Thank you for the health of body and mind. Amen!

Verse 6: Knowledge and truth! Loud sounding wisdom! Sing to the Lord a new song! Daughter and son! Loud praying members! Sing to the Lord a new song!

Father in heaven, thank you for the gift of the church and your holy Word. Thank you for pastors and leaders who lift up that Word. Thank you for family and for community with one another and with you. Amen!

As the Psalmist and refrain of this hymn profess, "He has done marvelous things!"

We too should praise God each day with a new song. Amen!

Soli Deo Gloria (all glory be to God),

Austin



Messiah Details

When: Sunday, May 4, 2025 | 3:00 - 4:00 p.m.
Where: Christ the King Lutheran Church
Cost: Free; a free-will offering will be received
Questions: Contact
Austin Willhite, Music and Worship Director,
Faith Lutheran Church

Seniors' Scene by Pr. Paulus Pilgrim

As is true every year, it seems as if we just began the program year, but soon we are at the end of it. Our final Seniors' Potluck for this program year will be Thursday, May 29. This is a good time to share words of thanks to all who helped make these special times together enjoyable and meaningful. I'm thinking of the steering committee, who did the planning last September, and helped at the food table every meeting, guiding the hosts, and, of course, the hosts and hostesses themselves, who certainly deserve a big thank you! I believe we should also express our gratitude to those who brought new people to our meetings. That is a sure way to help us grow in numbers. By the way, both our numbers and our offerings have increased, not by leaps and bounds but steadily.



I want to make special mention of my two partners, Marsha Schmit and Jeff Amundson. If you don't know it, we meet to plan each meet-

ing, who's going to do what, etc. We hope this has helped to make your Seniors' Potluck even more enjoyable. (However, neither one has volunteered to do the jokes.)

Our May meeting will feature James (Jim) Fahey, a well-known Hutchinson resident. Besides raising his family here, he owned the Fahey Sales, Auctioneer & Appraisers company. Jim loves to talk about historic Hutchinson, and we hope he does a lot of that for us. So please join us for Seniors' Potluck, on Thursday, May 29, 2025. Potluck begins at 12:00 noon, in the Faith Center.

"See you at seniors' potluck!"

Stewardship Matters

Stewardship.

This column is being written during a week when the stock market is responding wildly to new tariffs imposed by the federal government. At the moment, the markets have jumped up again dramatically after several days of sharp losses. Who knows where they will be by the time you read this?

Those wild swings in the market are a good illustration of why Jesus warned, "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 treasures in heaven, where neither moth nor rust consumes and where thieves do not break in and steal. For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also."

To put one's trust in "treasures on earth" will bring fear, anxiety and distress. To center one's trust in God, however, brings confidence, hope and calm, for as Psalm 145:15-16 declares, "The eyes of all look to you, and you give them their food in due season. You open your hand, satisfying the desire of every living thing." The wealth of this world comes and goes. The steadfast love and provision of God never wavers! That is the foundational promise of Biblical stewardship of all God has given us.

Leap of Faith Capital Campaign

The Leap of Faith campaign has received a very generous response...from those who responded. Only 25% of Faith's households have made a commitment so far, yet Leap of Faith already has received more in pledges than any previous capital campaign conducted here. People have also been giving generously and steadily to the campaign since January, to the current tune of about \$280,000!



That is astounding support and thanks be to God for inspiring such generosity! The only catch is that it is nowhere near enough to proceed with the building of Phase II. That sense of limbo has caused some members of Faith to wonder whether Leap of Faith is "on" or "off." To be clear, it is very much on! With the gifts and pledges made so far, Leap of Faith is a great success, but without a broader sense of the congregation's commitment, it is not possible to move ahead with any concrete plans.

That is why the Phase II Finance Committee continues to encourage households who have not returned a Leap of Faith pledge to do so. (Remember that pledges are only statements of intent, not binding contracts, but they are made out of confident trust in the Lord's faithful providing for us.) The amazing initial response reinforces the conviction of Faith's leaders that this goal can be reached, for Jesus promised, in the theme verse for Leap of Faith, "All things can be done for the one who believes." (Mark 9:23)

Remarkable Witness through the Augustana District

Reflections from Pastor Paul Knudson



We at Faith, through the Augustana District, are privileged to be in supportive partnerships with global mission partners who major in their witness to Jesus Christ grounded in what is called the Great Commission: "Go therefore and make disciples of all nations…" Financial numbers are not central, but sometimes they point to remarkable, steadfast witness.

Through some research, our AD Board of World Missions learned that our giving, as the Augustana District over the last ten years, has amounted to \$632,164.00 for the outreach efforts through the Tabor Congregation of the Ethiopia Evangelical Church Mekane Yesus. We have, through mainly one congregation, contributed \$115, 532.00 for continuing education efforts of the primary witnesses

of the North Central Ethiopia Synod of EECMY. Finally, \$41,638.00 has been given to support evangelical witness in Northern India.



This is remarkable and ever so helpful to encourage these witnesses to Christ. It is amazing that this support has come from 13 of the AD congregations. What is sad, however, is that these congregations represent less than 15% of the 103 congregations of the district. Pray with us that we will find multiple ways to increase significantly the numbers of congregations who find joy in supporting this witness.

Summer Outdoor Worship Returning Soon

It is almost time to resume summer worship services at Library Square.

Beginning Sunday, May 25, through September 7, 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 or listen to the live 8 a.m. HCVN TV broadcast for changes due to the weather. 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.





Free Community Meals

The monthly free community meals at Faith are provided the second Sunday of each month for those in the area that need a hot meal. They are also for members of Faith Lutheran who would like to gather for good food and great fellowship.

In order to continue to provide these meals, volunteers are needed to prepare and serve them. There are funds available through the church to pay for the food. Currently, servers are still needed for the June, August, September, and November meals. If you, your family, Bible study group, or other group are interested in serving a meal, please reach out to the church office.

Bibleopoly Check-In

How is your Bible reading going so far? We are one third of the way through the year, are you one third of the way through your Bible? If so, CONGRATULATIONS! Keep up the good work!

If you are not that far into your Bible reading yet, have you read a book or two? If so, well done! Put some stickers on the Bibleopoly Board the next time you are at church and keep reading! You haven't had a chance to start yet? Summer is almost here, so take your Bible out on the boat, in the car as you ride along, to the quiet cabin, wherever you go. Read a little here, read a little everywhere you go! As you read watch to see how God uses that time with Him in your life.

Children, Youth, and Family Ministry Dates



Sunday School

This month, students will learn about the Armor of God, what is the Trinity, and end with VBS Sunday!

Last day of Sunday School is May 18.



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 do I do the right thing when everyone's doing the wrong thing?" and "Which is it: one God or three?"

No 56er's on May 7. Last day of 56er's is May 21.

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 last date is May 7.

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.



Confirmation

This school year, our confirmation students are learning about the Bible and are now in the New Testament. Confirmation meets on Wednesdays from 3:45 p.m.—5:30 p.m. with hang time after school until confirmation begins.

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.



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.

Questions? Contact us!

Kristen Durst—Director of Youth and Family Ministries—kristend@faithlc.com Laura Stowman—Director of Children and Family Ministries—lauras@faithlc.com

MISSION TRIP STORIES DIGGING DEEPER SERIES



Come to hear stories from various mission trip perspectives, including youth, leaders, international trips, and more. Each week will present a different perspective.

Each year, we take a mission trip to different parts of our world. Each trip is unique as is each story from each participant. We want to share those stories!







Mission trips have been a vital part of our congregation's DNA for over 25 years. It is where we get to empower and inspire our youth to be the hands and feet of Jesus.

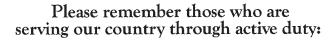
This summer we are heading to Indianapolis, Indiana for a weeklong trip. We will get to do hunger relief and work with social service organizations in their community.



DIGGING DEEPER OPTION 2 Revelation: A Book of Hope?

During the Easter season, the second readings will come from Revelation, a book full of frightening threats of judgment in an uncertain future. Overall, though, Revelation is a book of hope and comfort. This Digging Deeper class will examine each Sunday's reading from Revelation for the word of hope that they proclaim. Meeting in the office conference room, April 27 to May 18.

Please Remember in Prayer



LtCdr. Brett Stadsklev (Navy, San Diego, CAson-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.





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, Missions Ministry 320-587-2227 (home)		paulk@faithlc.com
Paulus Pilgrim, Visitation	320-234-9753 (home)	paulusp@faithlc.com
Staff		
Jeff Amundson, Pastoral Ass	ociate 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 Coord	linator	finco@faithlc.com
Owen Weikle, Custodial Ser	vices Coordinator	320-587-2093

Buffalo Lake Nursing Home Kathy Fabel

<u>Cedar Crest - Silver Lake</u> Patricia Lambert

Cokato Nursing Home

Clara Betker Elaine Blade

Harmony River

Alice Hansen Shirley Holtz Wilbur Johnson

Oaks

Phyllis Blum Carol Otto DuWayne Peterson Alice Poshek

Woodstone Cyndy Ollrich

You can support the mission and ministry of Faith Lutheran Church by using this QR code or go to the FLC online giving page at

Faithlc.com/give-2/

Faith Lutheran Church 335 Main Street South Hutchinson, Minnesota 55350

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

Non-Profit
US POSTAGE PAID
Hutchinson MN
Permit No 5

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



FOLLOW JESUS
ANNOUNCE THE GOSPEL
INVITE ALL PEOPLE
TEACH CHRISTIAN TRUTH
HELP ALL WHO ARE IN NEED

