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

PRE-RECORDED TV
BROADCASTS
SUNDAYS 10 A.M.
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I'm guessing, if a poll were to be conducted among Minnesotans, that of the three summer months, August would rank as the least favorite.

(In fact, immediately after typing that sentence, I Googled it, and sure enough, there are many such polls! And sure enough, of the three summer months, August was the least favorite. One commentator called August "the Sunday of the year.")

In light of that, let me offer up some pastoral (and non-pastoral) encouragement. How to have a great August:

Rest! This is perhaps the biggest one. If you're like me, July was a blur! Between trips and events, it seemed like the last month flew by. It's time to rest and relax. Remember all that summer reading you planned to do? Now is a great time to start! Remember the beautiful creation God made for you? Take some of it in, and enjoy it! Let your body and your life be still. Rest.

Reflect! Since summer has once again flown by, take some time (in all your resting) to reflect. Think about what you have experienced this summer. Reflect on your trips, vacations, lake times, gatherings, and events. For me, August always begins with Mission Trip Sunday and Reunion, which offers great time for reflection. This summer, I will also be reflecting on how our summer began, with Luke and Ellie's wedding. As you reflect, it's also an opportunity to give thanks. Thank God for the blessings of summer!

Anticipate! Summer might unofficially end with the end of August, but that doesn't mean that blessings cease! In fact, September is often ranked as one of the favorite months. So while we are resting and reflecting, we also anticipate and prepare. And there is a lot to anticipate and prepare for: there is the school year, there is cooler (but not yet frigid) temperatures, there is changing seasons and fall colors, fall sports, and (best of all?) VIKINGS FOOTBALL! As you prepare for the beginning of those things—buying supplies and other items—take some time to pray. Pray that God prepares you and that God uses you in the new season.

Gather! Summer isn't over! Don't hasten its inevitable end by dreading it. Instead, embrace what's left! And what's left is August! First and foremost, enjoy the last month of summer with others! Gather with friends and family, and even more, gather with God's people. Make worship a part of your summer's end. We worship in Library Square through September 7.

So there it is, a little August redemption. God bless you throughout this last month of summer. Hope it's a great one!

See you in church!

Pastor Dave



Stewardship Matters

Stewardship teaching often focuses on generous giving in proportion to one's income, but Biblical stewardship extends beyond giving to managing all of our assets. In Luke 12, Jesus prefaced his Parable of the Rich Fool with a warning against greed, but the story itself is more about a lack of planning.

The farmer in the parable was wrong to put so much trust in his earthly wealth, but as God informed him that he was about to die, He asked, "And the things you have prepared, whose will they be?" The farmer had no plan, no thought beyond his own security as to how his ample goods could be put to use, so his sudden death left his big new store-houses filled with abundant crops in limbo.

The parable urges Christians first of all to keep our trust centered in God, not our possessions. It also emphasizes, the importance of planning out how our assets can be put to work, during our lives or after our deaths. Most people naturally leave their estates to their children, but what else could those funds support? How else could your assets be put to work for the Church and the world?

Pastor Paulus Pilgrim has often related an idea that came to him from a parishioner, who, in his estate plan, had made the Church his "last child," giving it an equal share along with each of his children. It was a creative, generous strategy that benefited his family members, but also the ministry of God's Kingdom. Have you considered making Faith Lutheran or a Christian mission the "last child" in your estate? It is one of many ways to think about faithful stewardship of all our assets.

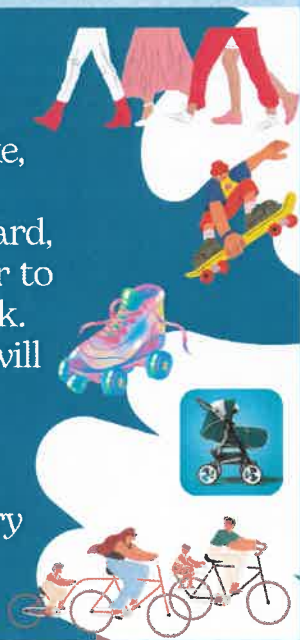


Bible Camp for Big Kids

Bible camps are usually thought to be a ministry to children and youth, but they are not only for young people. The Bible camps that Faith Lutheran supports, Mt. Carmel and Ingham-Okoboji, both offer retreats for adults, as well as "Elderversity" gatherings designed for people over 55. As it happens, Pastor Scott will be teaching at the Okoboji elderversity in early September, but there are several other options. To find out more, check out www.mountcarmelministries.com/adults-of-all-ages-2/ or www.okoboji.org/elderversity.

CAR FREE DAY **SUNDAY, AUGUST 17**

Walk, ride your bike, pull out the roller skates or skate board, or push the stroller to worship in the park. After worship we will hit the trails and check out the sculptures before returning to Library Square for an ice cream treat.



Car Free Day (Reschedule Date)

One way to avoid the parking issues at Library Square is to join the Faith family by riding your bike, walking, or rolling (strollers, rollerblades/skates, scooters, etc.) to worship.

You and your family are invited to Bike/Walk/Roll to worship at Library Square on Sunday, August 17. (First Word attendees are invited to come to Library Square at 11:30 a.m. to join the fun.)

After worship, we will have maps available with a list of the new 2025 sculptures and three different-length routes you and your family can follow as you take a walk/ride/stroll along the trails. See how many of the new sculptures you can find. Then return to Library Square to show off what sculptures you found and to enjoy an ice cream treat to cool off.

STUMP THE PASTOR

Stump the Pastor

Q: My study Bible refers to the Deutero-Pauline letters. I know St. Paul wrote most of the letters in the New Testament, so which letters are these?

A: Like all fields of work or study, Biblical scholarship has its own specialized lingo, most of it based on Greek or Latin terms. The prefix *deutero-* is a Greek word that means second or one step removed. The title of the book of Deuteronomy means “second law,” because it repeats the Ten Commandments and some other laws that were given earlier in Exodus or Leviticus.

The term Deutero-Pauline reflects the idea of “one step removed.” Ephesians, Colossians, II Thessalonians, I and II Timothy and Titus all have Paul’s name on them, but many (though not all) scholars believe that he did not personally write them. For example, they use some words or concepts differently than Paul does in the letters that he definitely wrote or they employ a different style of writing that just does not “sound” like Paul. Still today, avid readers can “hear” how a familiar or favorite author “sounds.”

Because of these and other differences, scholars suspect that those letters are Deutero-Pauline; that is, they are one step removed from Paul himself, written by students or followers of his. If so, there is nothing surprising or scandalous about it. It was a common practice in the first century. To write in the name of one’s teacher was a way to honor him (or, less commonly, her) as the source of the actual author’s knowledge, and to vouch for the reliability and integrity of his work. To do that today would be considered fraudulent or dishonest, but it was widely accepted in the ancient world.

These questions of authorship fascinate scholars, but they do not affect the authenticity of the letters. The Church discerned which books were inspired Scripture based chiefly on their content, not their authorship. Whether books like Ephesians and Colossians were written by Paul or by a devoted follower of his, they were recognized by the Christian Church as inspired writings that proclaim God’s Word to us.

Our Longstanding Partnership in India Through NHMS

by Pastor Paul Knudson

- ♦ The Shaliach Bible College has 52 students in this session, 23 of them are new students. Pastor K.K. Alavi, founder of the mission continues to share his deep convictions and witness to these students.
- ♦ The Bishara Center and Bible College relate to 43 house churches in many different locations in India.
- ♦ Recently students and others from the Center made connections with some 4,000 people through its long standing practice of sharing small books and leaflets. Our support helps in that distribution.
- ♦ Through the witness of Dr. Christoph out of Germany we support the witness of Brother Titus in Nigeria. His life is in constant danger and he recently had his house burned down. He needs our continuous prayers.
- ♦ The leadership at FLC is a major financial help in this witness continuing.



Support Groups

Faith Lutheran Church Support Groups

For more information or to plug into any of the following support groups, please call the church office at 320-587-2093 and ask for Pastor Paulus Pilgrim, Jeff Amundson, or Marsha Schmit.



Support Groups

- 1) **FACe Cancer Support Group** This group is open to members and non-members of Faith alike. Those with cancer, those who are in remission, and family members who are caregivers of those with cancer are encouraged to participate in this support group. The FACe group meets the second and fourth Thursday morning of each month in the third floor conference room at 10 a.m. A Zoom option is available for those who are not able to attend due to health or distance obstacles.
- 2) **Caregiver Support Group** meets the last Thursday of each month, September—May, at 4:00 p.m.
- 3) **Grief Support Group** meets as needed throughout the year.

Summer Sum Up



Mystery Bus

Kristen, Laura, and our Summer Fellows took 22 middle school students on a mini-mission trip at the end of June. Each day, the students arrived excited to learn where they were serving and what team-building activities we would do at the end of the day.

Day One

We toured Creek Side Soils to learn how to be good stewards of the earth God entrusted to us. We followed up our tour by weeding at Girl Scout Park and removing invasive trees at AFS Park. We ended our day by running around and going down crazy slides at Slick City in Maple Grove. A highlight for the day was one of our former FLY youth who had gone on Mystery Bus as a middle schooler who was helping us at AFS Park as an adult.

Day Two

We spent our morning cleaning up and preparing Sunday School classrooms for the fall. We loved seeing the students work together and lead each other. Then we drove safely through the rain to Vertical Endeavors in Saint Paul where we rock-climbed. We are always very proud of students who face their fears of heights.

Day Three

On our last day, we got up nice and early to pack meals at Feed My Starving Children in Chanhassen (we packed 43 boxes - just our group!) and then we went to the Science Museum!

Mystery Bus is a great way for us to see how serving others can be super fun! Our hope is that the students take this love of serving back to their families and see how they can serve others in their neighborhood and community.

Summer Sum Up (cont.)



Vacation Bible School

Each summer, Faith Lutheran church and Christ the King Lutheran Church partner together to host Vacation Bible School. This summer we had 101 students experience the love and joy of Jesus at True North VBS. This Alaskan-themed VBS taught us that we can **TRUST JESUS** in this wild world.

We began our mornings together for worship where we met Scout Rivers, sang songs, shared God sightings, and met our Bible Buddy. Then we split into our rotations of Wild Bible Adventures, Crafts, Glacier Games, Sticky Scripture, and Tundra Treats. At the end of our morning, we gathered together for more worship where Austin led us in a hands-up experience to drive in the Bible point for each day.

Day One

We learned that when we wonder, we can trust Jesus! Our Bible Buddy, Ponder the sea otter, reminded us of that. In Bible Adventures, we heard about John preparing the way for Jesus and baptizing him.

Day Two

Our Bible Buddy, Clawdia the King Crab, taught us that when we feel alone, we can trust Jesus! We learned that Jesus teaches about God's love for us in our Bible Adventures room.

Day Three

Kody the Bear helped us know that when we feel powerless, we can trust Jesus! In Bible Adventures, we heard about a Roman officer who trusted Jesus.

Day Four

On our last day, Earnest the Bald Eagle reminded us that when we need hope, we can trust Jesus! This is the day that we learn about Jesus dying on the cross and coming back to life.

Vacation Bible School is a highlight of the summer for so many children and we could not have done it without the help of our 65 volunteers. Thank you so much!



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*Gathering families,
Connecting generations.*



September 18-20 still has openings!



Open House for Ringers of Faith and Faith Singers

Ringers of Faith Open House
Tuesday, August 26 at 5:30 p.m.

Faith Singers Open House
Wednesday, August 27 at 5:30 p.m.

Everyone is welcome to attend the Open House (and bring a friend) to learn more about the Ringers and Faith Singers.

Rehearsals will start first week in September.



Faith Apparel Options Are Back With Some NEW Choices

The Faith Lutheran Church Apparel store is open!
There are t-shirts, dress shirts, sweatshirts and more.

You can place your order online via the QR code or go to
<https://www.brandedsolutionsstores.com/faithlutheran/shop/home>

There are samples in the office gathering space for you to see the material items are made of and to check on sizes.

The store will close on July 31 so get your order in right away!
If you need help placing an order, please call or stop by the church office.



2025 Fall Gathering of the Augustana District Women of the Word

September 20, 2025 from 8:30 a.m. –3 p.m.

Registration Deadline—September 2, 2025

Hosted by New Creation Lutheran Church
295 Coney St., Perham, MN

Guest Speakers with a focus on “Being Still” are Pastor Erica Varcoe, an LCMC pastor of the Table Ministry; Pastor Lexy Carson from Salem and Sauk Valley Churches in Osakis; and Jessica Bergland, a physical therapist. More details about the speakers and the schedule for the day are available in a brochure you can find in the church office.

Perham is a three-hour drive from Hutchinson, SO – we are planning to carpool (and will be leaving at 5:30 a.m. in the morning). If you wish to join us for the day, PLEASE REGISTER in the church office or contact Jan Kreie at 320-510-1942.

There is also an option to watch the gathering in person or as a group via Zoom, and an option to go up on your own and stay overnight. If you are interested in one of these options, sign-up forms are available in the church office.

Please Remember in Prayer

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

LtCdr. Brett Stadsklev (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.



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

Faith Lutheran Church INFORMATION & STAFF DIRECTORY

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Buffalo Lake Nursing Home

Kathy Fabel

Cedar Crest - Silver Lake

Patricia Lambert

Cokato Nursing Home

Clara Betker

Elaine Blade

Dassel Lakeside Nursing Home

Barb Helland

Harmony River

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Shirley Holtz

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or calling Wendy at 320-587-2093.



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

