



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
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POSTED SUNDAY
AFTERNOONS



I hope, you were able to read our Leap of Faith update insert in the September 7 bulletin. As the insert indicated, there is a lot of good news, a lot to celebrate! To recap:

- Combined with the leftover gifts from the Upon this Rock Plus Capital Campaign, we have passed the \$3 million mark in pledges.
- In the early days of the Leap of Faith Campaign planning, we interviewed several capital campaign consultant firms. Each firm thought we could raise about \$3 million with their (rather expensive) help. We raised that without their expertise and without having to shell out a significant portion of our gifts to pay for their help!
- The Leap of Faith Campaign saw the biggest amount ever pledged to a FLC capital campaign.
- With that, we also received several individual pledges that were higher than any we have ever received!
- And, taken together, we have the highest average pledge amount ever made at Faith!

So many of you took a leap of faith, and we thank you! Because of your inspired generosity, we are well on our way to addressing many of the needs we have at Faith Lutheran.

So now what?

Three million, while extremely generous, is still well short of our overall goal of raising ten million. So now what? Where do we go from here? How do we move forward?

Leap Day, if you remember, was way back on February 23. After Lent and Holy Week, we did one last push for more pledges before the summer hit. Now that summer is over, we owe you, the Faith family, an update! So mark your calendars for **Sunday, October 12, at 9:15 a.m. in the Faith Center** (during the Digging Deeper hour). It's a family meeting—a congregational conversation.

On the agenda: A more detailed financial snapshot, a conversation about options, and a gathering of feedback so that we have a better idea how to move forward. We're not going to be taking any official vote on anything, but we will be gathering some feedback.

Calling all First Word, Sanctuary, and Foundation worshipers! All parents of young children, empty nesters, and retirees! All newer members and Faith lifers! We really want your opinions! Please come, be informed, share your thoughts, and join us in prayer! Let's continue to take a Leap of Faith together!

See you in church!
Pastor Dave

Inside this issue:

Stewardship and Stump the Pastor	2
Seniors Scene and Music	3
Missions and Ministry Teams	4
Children and Youth Ministries and Calendar	Insert
Youth Ministry	5
More Miscellaneous	6
Staff Directory Prayer Requests	7



Stewardship Matters

There is little doubt that many people have viewed Christian giving as an obligation, if not a burden. They see it as an unfortunate claim on their money, but a necessary price to pay if congregations are going to function.

It may be surprising, then, to hear that Biblical stewardship views giving as a source of freedom. Stewardship is rooted in the confidence that God will steadfastly provide all that we need, so it frees us to give generously without worry that we will not have enough for our needs or resentment that we have less for ourselves. In fact, by recognizing that everything we have and are comes to us as a gift from God, it frees us to see that we do not actually *own* anything, but are entrusted by God to *manage* His good creation. That does call us to be responsible, especially in what we spend on ourselves, but it also frees us to make full and generous use of whatever God first gives us.

That, in turn, makes Christian giving a matter of joy, not obligation, of opportunity, not demand, of freedom, not legal compulsion. So lean back into God's steadfast providence and experience the joy of sharing generously the blessing He pours into your life.



Stump the Pastor

Q: Why is there so much evil and inhumane violence in the world?

A: This is a haunting question that has troubled believers down through the ages. It has spawned a whole separate field of theology called theodicy, which is the effort to defend God in the face of evil. Obviously, no simple answer in a short column can fully address it, but our Christian faith does offer some vital basic truths.

The chief source of evil in the world is human sin. When Adam and Eve rebelled against God in Genesis 3, their goal was "to be like God." Ever since, sinners have tried to exercise God-like power, whether by trying to control our own future, lording it over others to serve ourselves, wantonly taking another person's life or a hundred other selfish, destructive desires. As the old cartoon character Pogo famously said, "We have met the enemy and he is us!"

Given that, why doesn't God intervene to stop all that evil? In the great flood, God did attempt that, but vowed never again to destroy all of creation. The problem is that, if God did destroy all evil, it would mean destroying all people, including you and me. That was what He was unwilling to do with Noah and his family. Instead, God set about to redeem the world from sin, death and the devil. As a pastor I know put it, "A long time ago, God decided not to fix the world, but to save it instead."

God's method for saving the world was not to wage all-out war against evil, but to take it on Himself in Jesus Christ. That is why Christ's cross stands at the very center of our faith. Whenever evil acts are perpetrated, the cross assures us that Christ is present with those who suffer in order to redeem them in the midst of evil, to fill them with hope and peace, to assure them of his steadfast love and to take them to be with him forever.

That is not the end of the story, however. In I Corinthians 15, St. Paul wrote of the risen Lord Jesus, "Then comes the end, when he hands over the kingdom to God the Father, after he has destroyed every ruler and every authority and power. For he must reign until he has put all his enemies under his feet. The last enemy to be destroyed is death." Christ won the ultimate victory by his death and resurrection, but the battles continue. For how long we do not know, but we do have the assurance of the empty tomb that Christ is Lord, all authority in heaven and on earth belongs to him, and so nothing "in all creation will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord." (Romans 8:39b)

Seniors Scene



As I write this, the temperature outside is warm and should be in the 80-degree range for a few days. What do you suppose it is like in the Arctics? How would you like to book a trip to Antarctica and find out for yourself. Maybe you'd rather take a trip to Paris, France, or Portugal or some other destination, warmer places.

Well, you can take a virtual trip to Antarctica and get a picture of what it is like on **October 30** this year. That's right, you can get an idea of that cold land without leaving our weather behind. That's because our **Seniors' Potluck** meeting features a travelogue by Ian McDonald, who with his wife, Kathy actually went to Antarctica some time ago. We planned this travelogue a year ago and were cancelled by bad weather. So let's hope for better conditions this time. Put it on your calendar, **Seniors' Potluck on Thursday, October 30**, beginning with our potluck dinner at **12:00 noon**.

And while you have your calendar in hand, move to November 13, 2025. That's the day we pack our Operation Christmas Child boxes. You can begin preparing for that event by noting things you can purchase and gather now for gladdening the hearts and building the faith of children in countries all over the world. If you have Thrivent policies, you can also get gift cards to help provide toys, hygiene items and more to pack. Let's really put our effort into this and challenge ourselves to make this our best-ever production. Incidentally, Mona Hjerpe and her Meghan's Place community will join us again. **"See you at Seniors' Potluck!"**



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.

- 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 **THIRD** Thursday of each month September—May at 4 p.m.
- 3) **Grief Support Group** meets as needed throughout the year.

Vespers *Evening Prayer*

Mondays in-person and live on
Facebook at 7:00 pm



Music and Worship

Matins *Morning Prayer*

Tuesdays, Wednesdays, and
Thursdays in-person and live on
Facebook at 9:00 am



A new evening **Vespers** service will begin on Monday, October 13, at 7:00 p.m. This service is open for in-person participation or you can join it via Facebook each Monday evening.

Just a reminder that we continue to have **Matins** three mornings a week as well as **Morning Prayer** on Wednesday mornings. These are also open to in-person participation or Facebook viewing.

A Mission Field That May be a Challenge Calling for More Preparation and Action

by Pastor Paul Knudson

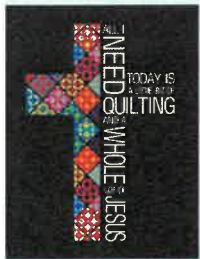


Some of us grew up praying for missionaries far away and never imagined that we would have a mission field here and now for which we may be unprepared for witness up close and personally. I have been a pastor now for some fifty-seven years, and I myself am challenged by many aspects of my own witness.

For example, we recently had dear friends as house guests, who go back many years, the husband being a college classmate. Both now go to a Unitarian Church and identify as atheists. Yes, I know many of you may feel that atheists are a tiny minority in our land where churches abound in our town of Hutchinson. Yes, that may well be true, but it is a lot more difficult to dismiss

the fact that in our so-called Christian nation more and more we know are clearly, simply secular. They at least appear to have no need for worship and belief in Jesus Christ as Lord and Savior of all.

It's one thing for us to pray for and support others in distant lands bearing witness to Jesus Christ. Could it be that, along with these prayers, we need to fall on our knees and cry out for our Lord and Savior, for the Holy Spirit, to awaken us to our witness to those here who are ardent non-believers and others who are just doing their thing in this secular land?



Faith Quilters Update

Once again this amazing group of hard working ladies has shipped off some of their work to Orphan Grain Train and Global Health Ministries over the past couple of weeks.

To Orphan Grain Train on September 17 they sent:

109 quilts
48 pillow case dresses

Thank you for your material and financial donations, as well as time and talent gifts.

To Global Health on August 28 they sent:

Socks 510
Body slings 21
Gowns & Uniforms 86
Bed pads 26
Assorted blankets 150
Bandages 1900
New Born Kits 62

What are Ministry Teams

Faith Lutheran Church Leadership

Have you ever heard the term "Ministry Team," and wondered what that was? Well, over the next few months we would like to answer that question by introducing you to the various ministry teams and church council members that serve as the leadership for Faith Lutheran Church. Ministry Teams meet once a month, typically, the third Tuesday of each month from 6-7:30 p.m.

Let's start with the Discipleship Ministry Team. This team is currently made up of eight members of Faith: Cheryl Buboltz, Shari Dorival, Barb Hedin, Mike McDowell, Tim Meier, Julie Renkes, Lori Swift, and Roberta Yukel, and staff liaison, Wendy Magruder. Two members of this team, Cheryl and Lori, are also voting members of the Church Council.

The purpose of the Discipleship Team is to support group activities that encourage unity and growth as the body of Christ. Some of the ministries this team has taken the lead with are: Date Nights for encouragement for married couples, Bibleopoly (encouraging the congregation to dig into the Word every day), providing organization for the annual Soup and Chili Supper, and providing one of the free community meals each year.

As a way to keep people connected with Faith this team delivers May Baskets to homebound members of Faith, they call all new members a month or two after they join to touch base and see if they have any needs that the team can help with. They also send out anniversary cards to some members each year reminding them of their membership anniversary or baptismal birthday. This team is also often thinking about other outreach ministries that they can bring to the congregation.



In the Chaos

Here we are in the wake of endless violence in our country. I have watched the deep division of our nation continue to separate even more. One thing is deeply apparent. We desperately and whole-heartedly need Jesus.

In my work with young people, I have been called to shape their faith, but what really happens is they shape mine as I shape theirs. We took a mission trip this past summer to Indianapolis. This trip was marked by significant and impactful prayer. Time and time again I witnessed our youth step up to pray. They prayed for one another, their leaders, the people we served, for the organizations we partnered with, for random people that we had interaction with, and in so many more cases. Every time we passed a car accident, heard sirens, or we heard of some news—our youth led us in prayer. After the school shooting at Annunciation in Minneapolis, I led youth group. I had finished up my announcements and went to pray. One of my youth raised his hand and asked if we could pray for Annunciation. It floored me. Why was my attitude not that right away? Why did I choose avoidance in front of the group? We prayed and it brought a peace to our group that was feeling really heavy. Just two weeks later, on another Wednesday, was when we heard of a public figure's assassination and of the school shooting in Evergreen, CO. I checked my attitude and was quick to pray with the youth but they had set the example for me even though it should have been me that prayed first.

In all of this uncertainty, one thing remains true: the Lord is at work even in the deepest chaos of our lives. From cancer diagnosis, to tumult in the political sphere, to drama in the workplace or at school, to mental health crisis's; God is worth holding onto in the face of a storm, in the chaos. His heart breaks alongside ours. He weeps with us in our mourning. He is with us in the strife. He is not a God that abandons his people, but rather carries us through all we do. So, if you are wondering where to even begin with everything swirling in your life—I implore you to act like our youth: to stop and to pray.

Kristen Durst, Director of Youth and Family Ministry

Operation Christmas Child

Help send gift-filled Operation Christmas Child shoeboxes to children in need around the world with the message of the Gospel of Jesus Christ. You can do this by...

- Picking up a shoebox and a list of recommended items, go shopping and fill the box with fun, new items, and **return to church by November 16.**
- Donate items from the list of gift recommendations **by November 12.**
- Donate money to help with the shipping costs of the shoeboxes.
- Pray for the children who will receive the shoeboxes.



**56er's will be packing on November 12.
Seniors' Potluck will be packing on November 13.**

Register Today!

*Dear Church family,
It's time for a New Directory!*



Register Today!



Due to your great response in making photography appointments for the new church directory we have requested two more photography dates to accommodate all of you who want to be included in this copy of the directory. The dates Thursday, October 2, and Monday, October 27, have been added and have afternoon and evening time slots available.

To schedule your photography appointment online, go to www.ucdir.com. Go to photography appointment scheduling, login on the right side by entering **MN562** and password **photos**. You can also call the church office if you need help scheduling an appointment.

We can't wait to see all of your smiling faces included!

Register Today! Register Today! Register Today!

Sunday Schedule at Faith Lutheran Church

**8:00 a.m. First Word (Traditional
Service in the sanctuary)**

**9:00 a.m. Sunday School and
Confirmation Classes**

**9:15 Multiple Digging Deeper
adult education opportunities**

**10:10 a.m. Sanctuary Service
(Blended service in the sanctuary)**

**10:10 a.m. Foundation Service
(Contemporary service in the
Foundation)**

**Communion is celebrated at the
First Word and Sanctuary services
on the first and second Sunday of
most months.**

**It will also be celebrated in the
Foundation service on the third
and fourth Sunday of most
months.**

New Member Orientation and Reception

Faith Lutheran Church will receive new members in November. If you or someone you know is interested in joining Faith Lutheran, please contact Marsha at 587-2093 or marshas@faithlc.com for information on this process. Thank you!



Trick-or-Treat For the Food Shelf

Confirmation and 56er students will join other youth from Hutchinson area congregations to trick-or-treat around Hutchinson on Wednesday October 29, from 5-7 p.m. They will collect non-perishable food, paper products, etc.

for the McLeod County Food Shelf. If you will not be home you can leave a bag with a note "Food Shelf" at your front door for the youth to pick up. For safety purposes we ask that you **DO NOT INVITE STUDENTS IN** while you get your donation together. This annual event is a huge blessing to the food shelf as they get ready to move into the holidays. Thank you for your support!

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:

Buffalo Lake Nursing Home

Kathy Fabel

Cedar Crest – Silver Lake

Patricia Lambert

Cokato Nursing Home

Clara Betker

Elaine Blade

Harmony River

Alice Hansen

Shirley Holtz

Wilbur Johnson

LorAllen (Schmudge) Schmeling

Meeker Manor – Litchfield

Barb Helland

Oaks

Phyllis Blum

Carol Otto

DuWayne Peterson

Alice Poshek

Woodstone

Cyndy Ollrich



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	
Monica Schiller, Nursery Supervisor		

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/





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Put mailing label here

Newsletter via USPS or E-mail?

Would you be willing to receive your monthly copy of *Faith Matters* via e-mail?

It saves the church postage and printing costs, and you get to see it in color every month!
You can request a change to e-mailed newsletters by sending a request to office@faithlc.com
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

