




 FAITH LUTHERAN CHURCH
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 Hutchinson, MN 55350
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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.
 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



This month, we will celebrate Father’s Day again, thanking God for the vital role that fathers play in our lives. Father’s Day does not get the same level of attention as Mother’s Day, and, to be honest, many fathers might not mind that. It is still important, though, to honor the unique place that fathers hold and to encourage them in their vocation—and it might well be more important than ever.

It is no secret that, for a long time now, our culture has not shown fathers much respect. Perhaps it is an ongoing reaction against past days when fathers “ruled the roost,” but advertisements and television shows now commonly portray fathers as idiots who need to be rescued by their wives or children, books and movies often feature emotionally cold and distant fathers as the source of their children’s inner distress, and some radical voices assert that fathers symbolize a “toxic masculinity” that naturally tends to be dangerous or violent. At the same time, our culture has dramatically reduced the value it places on marriage, to the point that some people claim that fathers are necessary only for conceiving children, not raising them.

It is true, of course, that fathers (like mothers and everyone else) can be prone to idiocy, emotional distance and loss of temper. I could volunteer myself as Exhibit A! It is also true that the devaluing of marriage has led too many men to avoid maturity, responsibility and commitment. Fathers should not be idealized any more than any other sinners, but neither should their essential role in family life and raising children be dismissed.

Fathers influence children differently than mothers do. As just one example, a father is much more likely to “roughhouse” with his children, which helps them to learn personal limits and how to avoid hurting others. As protectors and providers, fathers help children to feel safe and secure. As husbands demonstrate love for their wives, they model for their children how to sustain healthy relationships as they grow.

One area, in particular, where fathers have a crucial impact is faith formation. Extensive research has shown that, while adults often recall that their mothers took the lead in faith practices when they were children, the participation and support of their fathers had an equal or greater impact. One study concluded that even if a father came to church, plopped down in the pew and slept through the service (which, to be clear, I am not recommending!), his simply being there made a measurable difference in whether his children remained faithful as adults.

Jesus himself invited us to view God as our Father. In the *Small Catechism*, Martin Luther wrote that the address of the Lord’s Prayer, “our Father, who art in heaven,” “encourages us to believe that He is truly our Father, and that we are truly His children, so that we may boldly and confidently pray to Him, just as beloved children speak to their dear father.” There is no greater vision for fatherhood than the cherished relationship between God the Father and Christ Jesus, His Son.

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STUMP THE PASTOR

Stump the Pastor

Q: In Matthew 23:9, Jesus said, "Call no one your father on earth, for you have one Father, the one in heaven." That sounds like we're supposed to reject our fathers. Really?

A: This perceptive question came from a confirmand who was wrestling with one of the many strident, even shocking, statements Jesus made. We often read right over or ignore those more troubling assertions, but they are also in the Bible and need to be taken seriously.

This question also reinforces how important it is to keep any Biblical verse in its context and to read it in light of the whole Bible. In this case, the context makes it perfectly clear that Jesus was not calling us to reject our earthly fathers. As a faithful Jew, he knew and followed God's commandment to "honor your father and your mother." Moreover, he said, earlier in Matthew's own account, "Do not think that I have come to abolish the law or the prophets... Therefore, whoever breaks one of the least of these commandments, and teaches others to do the same, will be called least in the kingdom of heaven." (Matthew 5:17, 19) Jesus would not tell his followers to set aside God's call to honor our parents.

In fact, Jesus' commitment to God's commandments explains what he did mean here. One common method of demagogues, tyrants or cult leaders is to insist that their followers cut ties with other people and authorities in their lives, and follow the leader alone. People who feel anxious, threatened or out of control in their lives can easily look to leaders like that to give them security and assurance. That dynamic lies at the heart of many mass movements.

So, Jesus warned his followers not to grant that kind of authority over ourselves to any human being, whether a political or a religious figure—not even to our earthly fathers if they try to drive us away from God our Father, for we belong to Him. God named and claimed us as His children in Holy Baptism. We can trust God to care for us in this life and, for Jesus' sake, to raise us from death into eternal life. Those gracious promises, sealed by the cross and empty tomb, grant us an ultimate security that no earthly authority can match, and with which no earthly authority should interfere.

Stewardship Matters

Talking about stewardship in the Church is always a bit awkward, because everyone is aware that churches like Faith Lutheran depend on their members' generosity to survive. With rare exceptions, churches have no other source of income other than freely-given offerings from faithful believers. Because of that, the church's call to stewardship can sound self-serving, and is often reduced to making sure the church can pay its bills, and to that end, not spend any more money than it absolutely has to do.

Stewardship
A way of living

In the Biblical vision of stewardship, however, meeting the needs of the temple or the priests was a secondary motivation. The main depiction is one of joy and gratitude for God's rich and steadfast blessing. For that reason, the basis for giving is not any set amount, but a portion of what God has first given us. That makes giving both an exercise in gratitude, and fair across all income levels.

Grasping the joy of generous giving according to what God first gives us would transform the practice of stewardship in the Church, even as it would also open up significantly more resources for ministry. Deuteronomy 26:10-11 paints the picture: "'So now I bring the first of the fruit of the ground that you, O LORD, have given me.' You shall set it down before the LORD your God and bow down before the LORD your God. Then you...shall celebrate with all the bounty that the LORD your God has give to you and to your house." Thank you for your joyful, grateful and proportional giving!

Pastor's Page continued from pg. 1

So, especially as Christians, let us celebrate fathers, thank God for their influence, encourage them in their role, and commit to raising our sons to be loving and responsible fathers. And fathers, embrace this high calling that God has granted you, model for your children a living, active faith in Christ Jesus as your Lord, and trust that the God whom we are privileged to know as our Father is and will be at work in you to be a "dear father" to your "beloved children."
Happy Father's Day!

See you in church!
Pastor Scott Grorud



A Look Back, A Look Forward: Reflections on Faith's Global Mission Witness From Pastor Paul Knudson

Great leaders don't need to blow their own horns. As this is true for individuals, it also is expressed by congregations in their leading. Faith Lutheran Church has, for many years, been a significant leader in mission witness, globally, regionally, and locally. It has been satisfying for me to see this congregation's witness to Jesus Christ.

For me, it is our living out the Great Commission of our Lord Jesus that is especially significant. We have been called out by our crucified and risen Lord to lift up his name above every name, making disciples of all nations "so that at the name of Jesus every knee shall bend and every tongue confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father." (Philippians 2:10)

As we look forward, we will do well to keep the focus and power of our witness centered on this same crucified and risen Lord Jesus. Sadly, some of our brothers and sisters in Christ are focusing their witness on their deeds of love and justice, while downplaying overt verbal witness to our Lord Jesus. Deeds of love and justice are surely vital to our witness, but our confessional prayer in worship, remains central: "Most merciful God, we confess that we are in bondage to sin and cannot free ourselves. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us...so that we will delight in your will and walk in your ways..."

We are thankful that we have multiple mission partners that stand with us in this confession of faith. Let us rejoice together in walking with these partners in Christ, leading their witness to have even greater impacts.



Leap of Faith Capital Campaign

One of the chief concerns about the Leap of Faith capital campaign has been that the amount needed to complete Phase II of Faith's building project is simply too large. The cost has risen to a level that it is unattainable for the congregation.

The Phase II Finance Team (P2FT) understands that reaction. The amount needed is huge, but that does not mean it cannot be raised. After just over a year, Leap of Faith has \$1.25 million dollars on hand. If that total could be matched in the last two years of the campaign, more than \$3 million would be on hand. P2FT has been told that the church could borrow up to another \$3 million.

That would take us at least half way to the total amount needed, after just one three-year campaign! If Leap of Faith were to receive more during the last two years than it did in the first year, the prospect of meeting the goal would not be all that distant or out of reach. If you have taken the "leap" already, thank you for your commitment and generosity. If you have not, would you join the family of Faith in making this vision a reality? As unlikely as it may seem, the goal really is within our reach!



Leap of Faith
Online
Pledge Card



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.
- 3) **Grief Support Group** meets as needed throughout the year.



**Join us in
Celebrating these 2026 Graduates
on Sunday, May 31!**



Hayden Bloemke
Libby Bradford
Lola Bradford
Jameson Buboltz
Jaedyn Buck
Lillian Curtiss
William DeMeyer

Kayley Eickhoff
Miley Flemming
Marissa Glesener
Trenten Hanson
Brooke Hauan
Olivia Horton
Isaiah Ishihara

Grant Kosek
Meisha Kuttner
Hudson Lien
Jaida Mayer
Madilynn Nelson
Matthew Nelson
Gina Padrnos

Kadi Powell
Julia Putz
Kallin Reinke
Emma Richardson
Ryleigh Schiller
Ethan Schlueter
Shareese Schuetz

Landon Teetzel
Lauren Wagner
Lilly White
Lydia Wollan
Brenden Ziegler



Summer Faith Fellowship

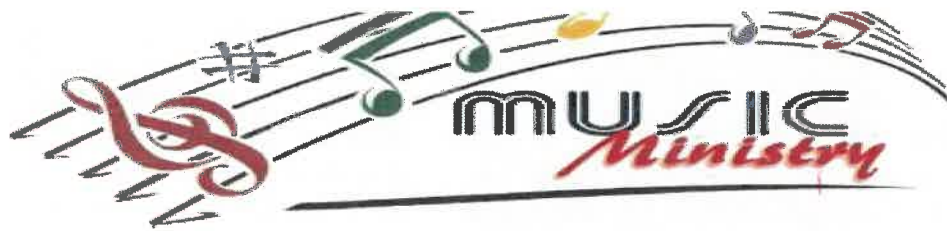
The Faith Center is often empty, the building is quieter, and we miss you! If you miss your Faith family, this is the summer opportunity for you!

With the pause of many of our adult programs for the summer (i.e. Monday Morning Bible Study, Seniors' Potluck, Digging Deeper, etc.), we invite you to a new weekly fellowship time for anyone interested in getting to know (or know better) our brothers and sisters at Faith. **Summer Faith Fellowship will be held on Mondays, beginning on June 1, from 10 – 11 a.m. in the Faith Center.** Come for a short devotion, coffee with a light treat, and plenty of time for fellowship! Bring your favorite coffee cup (you can even leave it in the cupboard) and come when you can! Contact Marsha with any questions by e-mail



The Summer Worship Schedule Has Begun!

Outdoor worship has begun and will continue at Library Square through September 13. (Watch for one special Sunday exception.) If you have not yet pulled your lawn chairs out, or shaken out your blankets, do it today, and come to pray and praise God under bright and sunny skies. The 8:00 a.m. First Word service continues inside the sanctuary as usual. The two 10:10 a.m. services are joined together into one blended service in the park. If the weather does not cooperate, the service will move back to the sanctuary at Faith.



Organ Update

For nearly forty years, the organ here at Faith Lutheran has led the song of God's people. Through countless weddings, funerals, Christmas services, Easter celebrations, confirmations, and regular Sunday services gathered around Word and Sacrament, this instrument has helped shape the worship life of our congregation for a generation.

After decades of service, however, our current Allen organ has begun to show its age. Regular First Word service worshipers may recall that it stopped working last year. If you arrived early enough, you may have even heard the horrendous sound it makes when it starts. Each Sunday, the organists and I say a silent prayer that the instrument will not blow up altogether! As with many aging electronic instruments, replacement parts are difficult to obtain, and reliable service has become challenging to arrange. In fact, it has been nearly two years since we have been able to secure repair support for the organ. While it has continued to serve faithfully, it has become clear that future repairs would likely become more frequent, more difficult and more costly.

After much discussion and consideration of this dilemma, Faith Lutheran has been given an extraordinary blessing: an anonymous donor has graciously offered to pay for the purchase and installation of a *brand-new organ* for our church! This remarkable act of generosity is far more than a financial gift. It is a profound expression of faith, stewardship and love for the worship life of this congregation. Sacred music has always stood at the heart of Lutheran worship, and this gift ensures that generations to come will continue to sing boldly and joyfully to the glory of God.



This September (exact date to be determined), Faith Lutheran expects to have a brand-new Rodgers Infinity Series 367 organ installed. This is a stunning three-manual digital instrument

featuring 67 stops and more than 400 available voices and sounds. Utilizing advanced sample sound technology, the organ is designed to capture the richness, warmth, and grandeur of real pipe organs with remarkable authenticity. We will also install 12 new organ speakers, two new sub-woofers, and two new amps to power full coverage from the front to the back of the sanctuary. The instrument is also American Guild of Organists (AGO) recommended and approved, ensuring a professional standard of design and performance.

Here at Faith, we thank God for the ability to worship Him in many styles and in many ways! With our beautiful grand piano, talented guitarists, pianists, singers and handbell players, our congregation is saturated with people and instruments that are more than capable of leading worship without the organ.

Why then is the organ so important to the Lutheran Church? It has long been known as "the king of instruments," and, for Lutherans especially, its role is deeply important. Martin Luther himself treasured congregational singing and believed music to be one of God's greatest gifts to the Church. Lutheran worship has always emphasized the voice of the gathered congregation being not performance, but participation. The organ serves as a foundation and a guide for the people's song, supporting hymns with strength, beauty, and reverence.

From J.S. Bach to Diane Bish, the organ has historically been the primary instrument for leading worship. Literature dates the organ's first use to the time of antiquity, long before Martin Luther! Our new organ will greatly expand the musical possibilities for worship at Faith. From majestic hymnody to quiet moments of prayer, from traditional organ literature to creative registrations utilizing hundreds of tonal colors, this new Rodgers organ will serve not only our present needs, but also the future mission and worship life of Faith for generations to come.

The process of selecting the organ became a memorable experience in itself! As options for a new instrument were explored, I was introduced to Rodgers Classic Organs and to Peggy Dahl-Bartunek, whose enthusiasm and love for sacred music immediately stood out. Peggy, who grew up as a pianist and later discovered a passion for the organ in her thirties, has spent years helping churches find instruments that fit their worship needs and musical vision. From the very first meeting, she felt less

like a salesperson and more like an old friend. Peggy visited Faith at the beginning of May to survey our current space, address issues and needs, and to get acquainted with the church and me. Her excitement and fascination for Faith Lutheran and for its worship and ministry programs gushed through our



conversations. As work continued to find the right organ for Faith, she invited me on a tour of three instruments currently installed and serving churches in the Twin Cities area. The tour included modest, grand, and concert models. One especially memorable moment came at the final organ on the tour, when an impromptu organ duet broke out between Peggy and me, filling the sanctuary with music and laughter alike. By the end of the visit, it had become clear that the Infinity Series 367 was the perfect fit for Faith.

As delightful and relieving as this moment is for our current dilemma, the excitement points beyond the present. This organ will serve Faith Lutheran well for many years ahead, so that, God willing, it will one day help lead worship in a new sanctuary, as well. In fact, the new organ was selected and will be built with Phase II in mind, so much so that the organ will have technology ready to be used in the new sanctuary that cannot currently be utilized in the present one today. This is an investment not simply in an instrument, but in the continuing song of the Church.

It is no secret that Phase II of our long-awaited building plan comes with a great cost. The faithful generosity of this donation will help ease some of that expense and set the church up for success in the future. The donors also asked me to express that they are excited and hopeful that this gift will urge forward the efforts of the Leap of Faith capital campaign to make Phase II a reality.

Join me in giving thanks! *Gracious and loving God, we give you thanks for this extraordinary blessing and for the generosity of the anonymous donors whose gift will enrich the life of our congregation for years to come. We thank you also for all who have cared for, maintained, and played our organ throughout the past forty years, offering their talents in service to your Church, and leading your people in song and worship.*

As we look to the future, bless this new chapter in the musical life of our congregation. May the music that fills this place continue to proclaim your Word, strengthen faith, comfort hearts, and inspire joyful praise. Grant that generations yet to come may lift their voices in worship, united with the saints of every age in songs of thanksgiving and faith.

All glory and honor be to you, O God, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

“Praise the LORD! Praise Him with trumpet sound; praise Him with lute and harp! Praise Him with tambourine and dance; praise Him with strings and pipe! Praise Him with clanging cymbals; praise Him with loud clashing cymbals! Let everything that breathes praise the LORD!”

(Psalm 150)

Soli Deo Gloria,
Austin Willhite, Director of Music and Worship



Rummage Sale Thank You!



The Rummage Sale Committee would like to thank everyone who participated in any way in the sale this year. Those of you that brought donations in, shopped, sorted and organized, and those who provided food for the volunteers.

The sale raised \$8,050 of which 30% will go back to Faith Lutheran Church. At the annual meeting in November those attending will vote on how to disperse the remaining funds while still keeping a balance to cover kitchen repairs or expenses.

Thank you all again!

INTRODUCING OUR 2026 SUMMER FELLOWS

ISABELLE DRESSEN



What have you done since graduating high school?

Since high school graduation I have been studying architecture at NDSU. I'll be going into my 3rd year next fall, and I'm heading toward a masters of architecture.

What is a favorite memory you have from your home church?

My favorite memories from my home church have to be going on mission trips with FLY and getting to see God's impact in those communities. Every summer it was such a blessing to be in fellowship with the other youth and get to spread God's joy to everyone we met!

Why were you called to children and youth ministry this summer?

I've been called to serve these youth and children this summer because I believe they will teach the church more than they know. As I get to lead them, they will build my own faith as I get to encourage theirs.

What excites you about this fellowship?

I'm very excited to be back with my home congregation and give back to the people that have helped me so much growing up. I look forward to serving them wherever I can!

What have you done since graduating high school?

After graduation, I started college and worked a few part-time jobs. I currently work for a local radio station.

What is a favorite memory you have from your home church?

One of my favorite memories was when people in the congregation picked the name of a child to pray for in the church. Kareen, who soon became my Sunday School teacher, and her husband, Duke, picked my name. Kareen would remind me every Sunday that she was praying for me.

Why were you called to children and youth ministry this summer?

Children and youth are the next generation of leaders in our communities and country. It is so important that they know the Truth.

What excites you about this fellowship?

Sharing the Good News with others this summer is exciting. I am also looking forward to meeting others who love God and to grow in the gifts God has given me.

MARTHA PICTON





Sign up for summer opportunities!

Mystery Bus
5th—7th grade
June 9—11

Vacation Bible School
Preschool—4th grade
June 29—July 2

Day Camp
Kindergarten—5th grade
August 3—6

Registration forms can be found on the children's page of our website faithlc.com



Please consider volunteering for VBS. It takes about 60 people to make this happen.

VBS prep day is on Thursday, June 18, at 3 p.m. in the Faith Center.

VBS volunteer training is on Thursday, June 18, at 5 p.m. in the Faith Center.

VBS stage and room set-up is on Sunday, June 28, at 1 p.m. at Faith Lutheran Church.



FLY Night

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



COME JOIN US FOR OUR LAST MISSION TRIP FUNDRAISER: THE ANNUAL DRIVE-IN DINER!

WEDNESDAY, JUNE 17, FROM 4:30 - 6:30 P.M. IN THE FAITH LUTHERAN PARKING LOT

ALL PROCEEDS HELP KEEP TRIP COSTS LOW FOR PARTICIPANTS!

Questions? Prayer Requests? Contact us!

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

Please Remember in Prayer



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)

If you know of a member of Faith who serves in the armed forces 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

GlenFields- Glencoe

Barb Helland

Harmony River

Larry DeGrote

Shirley Holtz

Wilbur Johnson

Prince of Peace

Maynard Holtz

Oaks

Phyllis Blum

Helen Kieper

Deloris Olson

Carol Otto

DuWayne Peterson

Alice Poshek

Pines

Ron Max

Dave Skaar

Woodstone

Cyndy Ollrich



Faith Lutheran Church

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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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Newsletter Switch From USPS To 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

