Faith On the rise

Faith Lutheran Church ELCA . 309 Fourth Street Northeast . Valley City . North Dakota . 58072 Volume XXVII Issue VII Monthly July 2025

The office will be closed Friday, July 4 in observance of Independence Day.

IN THIS ISSUE:

Pages 2 & 3

A Word from the Pastor Care of Creation Award

Page 3

Message from

Council President

Page 4

Worship Committee **RWBC Quilts Auction**

Page 5

Men's Group News **Noisy Offering**

Page 6

WELCA News

Page 7

Mission Team News

Page 8

July Birthdays

& Anniversaries June Transitions July Service & Care

Page 9

Rummage Sale June Memorials

Team Meetings

Page 10

School Supplies Drive **Summer Grocery Store**

Page 11

Sack Lunch Program Thrivefest **RWBC Scholarships**

Page 12

Staff Info

Inserts

Calendar/June Pics



Vacation Bible School—True North

Faith, Our Savior's, and Trinity Lutheran Churches held VBS on June 3-6, 2025 for kids who are going into Kindergarten-6th Grade in the Fall of 2025. Our theme this year was True North. Thank you to the parents for sending your children, as we all had a wonderful time! More photos on back of calendar.

We Welcome You to Join Us for Worship!



time, talents, and giving!

Sunday mornings at 9:30am we join together to worship our Savior and Lord! If you are unable to attend in person, please join us online. During the summer we will livestream the services at least twice a month. Go to our Facebook page: Faith

Lutheran Church Valley City and click on the link to watch the service. If we don't have anyone available to run the camera we won't be able to livestream the service. We thank you for your understanding.

During the summer months many of you are out of town on the weekends. Remember you can set up your giving online on our website: www.faithlutheranvc.org. The QR Code will take you to our website to the online giving. This is a way you will be able to continue to give your offering to support Faith Lutheran and our ministries. Thank you all for supporting Faith Lutheran Church through your



I was relieved to hear that everyone was safe and sound in our area after the tornadoes of Friday, June 12th. Whenever destruction occurs from natural disasters, we ask: *How can God allow this to happen? Where is God amid tragedy?* Over the

last few days, we have witnessed our community come together to help clean up in the aftermath of the storm with volunteers and neighbors helping neighbors, both young and old alike. This is where we can see God most clearly, in the compassion and efforts that are made by those who come to our aid. When we focus on what God is doing to bring life back to the places that have devasted our hearts turn from bitterness and blame to gratitude and love. There is an old Jewish proverb that says, *If you cannot be grateful for what you have received, then be thankful for what you have been spared.* I am grateful we have been spared the loss of life and any serious physical injuries. And for the hearts willing to join together helping those who suffered damage to property. This is how we proclaim the gospel of Jesus Christ! Those responding to the storm did not notice the differences in race or religion, in political parties or affiliations. They responded to the devastation of the storm for the love of their neighbors as Jesus taught us. Where is God amid tragedy? God is right here! 1 Peter 4:12 says this: *Dear friends do not be surprised at the painful trial you are suffering, as though something strange were happening to you. But rejoice that you participate in the sufferings of Christ, so that you may be overjoyed when his glory is revealed.*

I pray that we might not ever have to go through another storm like this one, but it is reassuring that when natural disasters do happen, we live in a community that shares in our suffering.

May the peace of God that passes all understanding walk with you this month of July,

Pastor Jamie

EaND Synod Care of Creation Award

Faith Lutheran Church proudly accepted the Eastern North Dakota Synod Care of Creation award at the June EaND Synod Assembly. This is the second year the traveling award has been given out. We thank Kalyn Botz and Brenda Rohde for attending the Synod Assembly and receiving this award for us. The Care of Creation award is given to a church that is environmentally conscious. When

Bishop Tessa Moon Leiseth was here for Pastor Jamie's installation she was really impressed with our

reusable pottery communion cups which were made by Dennis & Gail Pederson. We also have solar panels to help conserve energy (there is room for more). We minimize our use of

plastics/Styrofoam. The use of dishes, cups and silverware that we run through the dishwasher is a great way to do that. We thank everyone here at FLC for their conscious effect to protect the environment that God created.

Fun fact—Dennis & Gail Pederson were asked to make this award. Dennis made the base and Gail sculpted the hands.



Message from Our Council President

The month of June has me reflecting on how quickly life can change. The storms we have endured have us thinking more about our neighbors, hoping they are safe and able to bounce back after such terrifying events. Please take a moment to think of those who have lost their homes, buildings, grain bins, personal items, and more.

June also brought a very successful rummage sale. Thank you to Nancy and Al Sorensen and all the individuals who gave their time to help with this event. We also want to congratulate Pastor Jamie on thirty-five years in ministry. We are so grateful that you took this leap of faith and are here with us.

We'd like to welcome back Cyndi Hill and Pastor Jamie after their vacation in June. We're glad you're back and hope you enjoyed your time away. A special thank you to Scott and Erik Johnson and Val Moritz for leading worship and assisting with music during their absence. We truly appreciate the talents you share with us each time you step in to fill those "big shoes."

Your council has continued to meet monthly, and I would like to share a couple of updates with everyone. First, the council made a motion to move \$10,000 from Ministry Match to apply toward our line of credit. The motion was approved. It was also decided that proceeds from the rummage sale would go toward reducing our line of credit.

As a reminder, at our annual meeting in January, the congregation approved a negative budget. The council is working diligently to reduce our reliance on the line of credit. As of the end of May, our line of credit stands at \$15,200 in the red. If you are looking for a meaningful way to contribute through memorials, please consider giving to the general fund. If anyone has questions or suggestions, please don't hesitate to reach out to any of the council members.

I leave you with this quote:

"When you pass through the waters, I will be with you; and when you pass through the rivers, they will not sweep over you. When you walk through the fire, you will not be burned; the flames will not set you ablaze."

— Isaiah 43:2

With gratitude,

Amy Pederson

Your Council President



Faith Lutheran Church Worship Committee

In our newsletter last month, we introduced the worship committee and indicated we were reaching out to see if there are individuals, not already contributing to the musical aspect of our worship service, who would want to join in! We are still interested in hearing from you with your interests created with that shout-out!

We have also been talking about additions other than musical we could add or revise in worship and would like to hear from you. Maybe you have attended church on vacation, or a community you grew up in when you returned recently, and they were doing something new that you think we could do here. We would like to hear about it.

After discussing things that we may want to try someday, it seemed the 'someday' opportunity was before us in June. When our very capable and appreciated organist was going to be gone, including our faithful substitute, we researched on-line recorded church service music available for congregations. We found, reviewed, and selected songs that fit the service for the day. Songs we thought were known to the congregation and some that were new; but we thought had easy words and music with fun beats. Brian Yanish, on the sound board was great help! We prepared, and bravely went forward asking for grace and we all gave it a good try! The congregation sang along with those recorded songs. You did a good job!! Again, those who were in church that day we are open to constructive criticism as we would like to find a way to use music this way or comparable way. To do that we need to learn from that first experience. So, we would like to hear what you thought about singing these songs, - let us know.

With gratitude,

The FLC Worship Committee Elise Miller, Bri Foell, Matt Brandvold, Erin Metcalf

Red Willow Ministries—38th Annual Quilts & More Auction

Online Auction is open August 8th-15th (Link on Camp's Website: www.redwillowministries.com) Bidding will open at 8am, August 8 and closes at 8pm, August 15.

Live & Silent Auction—Saturday, August 23 at Red Willow Bible Camp, 1651 Jacob Drive, Binford, ND. Phone number 701-676-2681.

- Quilt Viewing—10am-11:45am
- Food Trucks Open—11am
- Silent Auction—10am-2:15pm
- Live Auction—12:30pm

New this year! Food Trucks and Kids' Games & Activities.

Raffle Tickets for the raffle quilt are \$10 each.



Worship Committee

RAFFLE QUILT - "Zoe" Donated by Bette Nelson

Men's Group News

What a beautiful evening for a gathering. Our Faith Lutheran Men's Group had our June activity Wednesday evening, June 18th. We had a potluck supper at Sayler's Cabin at Sibley. Although our turn out was light, we still had a great time with good food and wonderful fellowship. We express our thanks to Larry H and Larry E. Sayler for inviting us to their cabin and for being such wonderful Hosts.

Pictured (I-r):
Joe Lunde,
Ron Peterson,
Larry H. Sayler,
Larry E. Sayler,
Gary Sommerfeld.
Duane Larson
taking the picture.



Our July gathering is scheduled for Wednesday, July 16th at Mark Brandvold's cabin at the crossing. We will once again meet at Faith Lutheran Church at 5:30pm to carpool to Mark's cabin. More details will be sent to Men's Group members in an email a little closer to the event.



In August, we will be attending a RedHawks baseball game in Fargo. More details will be shared later on. If anyone has an interest about going to the game, please contact Duane at 840-8857.

Even in the busy, hectic summertime, we still like to keep doing different events to stay connected as a group. As we are all part of the family—'the Family of Faith'.

May GOD continue to bless each and everyone of you.

Duane Larson

Noisy Offering— School Supplies Drive

We will be receiving a noisy offering on Sunday, July 20 for the School Supplies Drive. The kids will come around with their pails to collect your loose change and dollar bills during the Children's Word. Your caring and generosity makes a difference in people's lives. In June we received \$163.01 for the Summer Grocery Store!

Thank you for your generous giving!

Visitation Team

This is a great photo of Marlys Freadhoff receiving a hug from Cheryl Foell's granddaughter, Olivia when Cheryl & Val went for their weekly visit with Marlys. Thank you Finley & Graysen for your visit too! These visits make her day!



WELCA News



We will not have a meeting in July so our next meeting will be August 13 at Faith Lutheran. Come join us in the Fellowship Hall at 3:30pm.

The following is from History of the Women CLCA from www.womenoftheelca.org.

Lutheran women in the United States have been gathering in mission since the 1800s, and we owe much to our foremothers who responded to God's call, created a place and lived out a purpose when women had no voice in the church.

Three groups came together in 1987 to form Women of the ELCA. These groups were the American Lutheran Church Women (of the American Lutheran Church), the Lutheran Church Women (of the Lutheran Church in America) and Women in Action for Mission (of the Association of Evangelical Lutheran Churches).

The constituting convention was held June 13-14, 1987, in Milwaukee, Wisconsin, with the theme "Embrace God's World." The organization was officially constitutes January 1, 1988, with the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America.

Communication tools would soon follow. The magazine Lutheran Woman Today began publishing in January 1988 and Newsletter followed in June of that year. The organization's first website was inaugurated in 1995. Café, our electronic magazine for women launched in 2006, with podcasts soon to follow.

In 2011, Lutheran Woman Today changed its name to Gather, and continued providing awardwinning content (Bible studies and articles) to more than 45,000 readers, with a pass-along rate of 3 additional people per subscriber.

The organization's first smart phone app, Daily Grace, was unveiled in 2011 (available for IOS and Android), the same year that the magazine took on a new name, Gather.

Various program initiatives were launched in 1988, some of which continue today such as our scholarship program. Initiatives came and went, meeting the needs of the women at the time. Raising Up Healthy Women and Girls, the organization's health initiative, began in 2005. Bold Women's Day, an annual celebration of our mission and the women who accomplish it, launched in 2007.

Today the organization is active in approximately 7,000 of the 9,200 ELCA congregations and in 64 of the 65 synods (the only synod without a synodical organization is the Slovak Zion Synod, the ELCA's only non-geographical synod).

Our purpose hasn't wavered since we created our first constitution. "As a community of women created in the image of God, called to discipleship in Jesus Christ, and empowered by the Holy Spirit, we commit ourselves to grow in faith, affirm our gifts, support one another in our callings, engage in ministry and action, and promote healing and wholeness in the church, the society and the world." (continued on page 7) (continued from page 6)

Since constituting in 1988, Women of the ELCA has belonged to the women; it is self-incorporated. No money from the ELCA budget is given to Women of the ELCA; <u>all monetary support comes from</u> the women themselves.

Thanks to you, Women of the ELCA continues its ministry today.

I found this article and website full of interesting information and this summer would encourage you to take a look at this website as listed above. If you haven't checked it out, you will find a lot of resources from the Gather magazine, to Bible studies, to podcasts!

Pour a lemonade and take a look.

God's Peace to all,

Elise Miller, WELCA President

Mission Team News

The Mission committee did not meet in June; however, we were still busy with the Summer Grocery Store. Elise Miller and Scott Johnson representing Faith Lutheran on the Bridges Backpack board helped open the Summer Grocery Store on the first Wednesday night in June. Thank you to Val Moritz who volunteered at the store on June 11th and to Deb Shape and Cheryl Foell who volunteered on June 18th. The following nights will be covered by other volunteers from churches and community organizations throughout Valley City.



Please see the newsletter for food items needed for donations, and those received at the church will be brought to the store. Thank you for your donations!! The store also took 9 of our Celebration Cake kits and puts some out each week, so the families that come to the store have an option to take one of those home.



School supplies will be our next mission drive, so watch for school supply sales in stores that will be fast approaching. The list of supplies needed will be provided in Sunday bulletins and newsletters. We have collected supplies that, when provided to the two elementary schools, become a resource for the teachers. Their students may not come with all the

supplies needed, run out of supplies needed, or move into school during the school year. Each year we receive than you messages from the schools telling us that this is so helpful for the students and teachers. We will collect them until the first week in August so we can deliver before school starts.

Thank you for participating in all our mission projects! We are truly blessed with our wonderful church family.

Hope you have a fun filled and safe summer!

Faith Mission Team



JULY BIRTHDAYS:

1. Talia Germann; 2. Olivia Johnson, Madison Mikkelsen;

3. Dave Jewett, Taylor Miller, Avvi Kellogg, JoAn Nellermoe; 4. Russ Kudrna; 7. Jasen McGough; 8. Jason Gerhardt, Mark Moser; 9. Sarah Duffy, Brianna Walker; 10. Mary Johnson, Heather Smith; 11. Kay Stanford; 12. Ashley Limesand, Sandi Pollock, Shawn Ranisate; 13. Jake Rohde; 14. Gary Anderson; 15. Diane Kohn; 16. Ivory Erickson, Hunter Sayler; 17. Rick Bredeson, Candace Johnson; 19. Westen Duffy; 21. Ellie Altringer, Mikkal Auka, Mike Metcalf, Sue Milender; 23. Kent Gronlie, Brody Metcalf, Sandy Mulvaney, Betty Overby, Jack Walker; 25. Seth Auka, Diana Larson, Conner May, Jason Winge; 26. Janeen Anderson, Jessica Jenrich, Kaylee Smith, Anthony Sommerfeld; 27. Drake Carlson; 28. Haidyn Becker; 29. Gage Hilborn, Cyndi Hill; 30. Doug Altringer, Lynn Gustafson. Jarin Thornton, Zach Wilmes; 31. Tyler Gustafson, Oliver Stearns.

JULY ANNIVERSARIES:

8. Scott & Kay Stanford; 9. Austin & Syndi Smith; 16. Dean & Amy Pederson, Scott & Wendi Wilmes; 20. Seth & Lexi Hanson; 23. Cory & Ali Rodin, Bob & Carol Thibeault; 25. Luke & Stepanie Bopp; 27. Gene & Nancy Bjerke, Brent & Lynn Gustafson, Brandon & Nicole Larson; 29. Tyler & Angela Van Bruggen; 31. Bob & Ilene Hetler, Mark & Linda Moser.

JUNE TRANSITIONS

BAPTISMS: We celebrated God's promise in Holy Baptism for Della Kay Kracht, born on February 4, 2025 and baptized on Sunday, June 1, 2025. Her parents are Chloe Hatten and Hayes Kracht.

July Service & Care

**Julie Moritz

**Cindy Waagen

Marlene Bartz
Rita Bearman
Jerry & Carol Mortiz
Ron & LeeAnn Peterson
Cheryl Peterson
Colten & Jenny Roberts
Jake & Brenda Rohde
*Thank you for serving!

June Attendance

June 1 91 33+ online
June 8 77 22+ online
June 15 75
June 22 74 42+ online
(June 29 not included)

Offering

January \$19,005.60 February \$20,335.00 March \$23,203.07 April \$21,189.71 May \$18,830.00 June \$17,257.50

Needed monthly to meet Mission Plan: \$23,577.58

Thank You!

The Family of IIIa Glandt would like to thank everyone for the flowers, cards, memorials and attend the funeral for IIIa. Thanks to Cyndi HiII, Becca Berntson and Randy Glandt for the wonderful music. To the Lunch Crew—it was great! A special thank you to Pastor Jamie for the beautiful service. IIIa was such a

kind and giving mother, grandmother, great-grandmother and friend. She loved her church. All memorials will be given to Faith Lutheran Church!

God bless you!

Illa Glandt's Family





Faith Lutheran Church Rummage Sale Notice!

Our Church Rummage Sale, held June 12-14, was another great success—thanks to all of you! We're so grateful for the many hands that helped stage items, work shifts, and clean up. We also appreciate everyone who purchased treasures. Your support helped us raise important funds. It's true: many hands make light work, and your individual efforts made a big difference.

A very special thank you to Nancy Sorensen for her incredible leadership and dedication in organizing this event.

Here are just a few highlights:

- \$3,000 raised for our church's general fund
- Great conversations and joyful fellowship among congregation members
- A warm welcome extended to community members who had the chance to visit our beautiful building and connect with us in person
- Donations made to:
 - o Faith Lutheran Church Quilters—jeans
 - o Community Closet—children's clothing, winter gear, and kitchen items
 - o ARC Thrift Store
 - Nearly Nu Store

Thank you again to everyone who gave their time, energy, and heart. What a blessing to serve together!

-FLC Council

June Memorials

In memory of IIIa Glandt given by Illa's Family (Altar Guild); by Mary Ann Anderson (Undesignated); by Lois Brandvold (Mission); by Paulette Everson (General Fund); by Dave & Jeanne Johnsen (Undesignated); by Virgil & Tami Kratz (Undesignated); by John & Elise Miller (Foundation); by Roger & Sandy Mulvaney (Undesignated); by Joan Noeske (General Fund); by Chuck & Deb Shape (Foundation); by George & Laurie Sheldon (Undesignated); by Dave & Carol Smith (Building Fund); by Tyler & Angela Van Bruggen (Undesignated); by Warren & Brenda Ventsch (Undesignated); by Cindy Waagen (Altar Guild).

In memory of Russ Hilborn given by Marlys Hilborn & Family (Undesignated).

JULY TEAM MEETINGS



Council—Meets Wed, July 16 at 5:00pm FLC Staff—Meets Tue, July 8 at 12:00pm Men's Group—No July or August Meeting
Mission Team—No July Meeting
August Service & Care— Meets Sun, July 20
after worship & by emails texts/ phone

WELCA—No July Meeting



Mission Team Project— School Supplies Collection List

We will have a collection box at the church in July through the first week of August. The Mission Team will pack them for the schools at their August meeting. Monetary donations should be placed in the donation envelopes and marked "School Supplies". We appreciate all the support this congregation has given to this project in the past, and we know we will have it again this year!

Reminder: Please stick to the items on the following lists.

ITEMS NEEDED:

Jefferson Elementary (Grades K-3) - Crayons (24 count); Classic Color Markers (regular 10 count); Thin Markers (10 count); #2 Pencils; Pink Erasers; Elmer's School Glue; Glue Sticks; Plastic Pencil Box; Scissors; Two Pocket Folders; Wide-Ruled Single Subject Notebooks; Colored Pencils; Sharpie (Black Medium Tip); Highlighters.

Washington Elementary (Grades 4-6) - Crayons (24 count); Fine Point Crayola Markers; Crayola Borad Line Markers; Black Sharpie Markers; Highlighters; Mechanical Pencils; #2 Pencils; Colored Pencils; Large Pink Erasers; Scissors; Pencil Box; Elmer's School Glue; Glue Sticks; Pens (red, blue, black); 12" ruler(both inches & centimeters); Two Packet Folders; Spiral Notebooks; Loose Leaf Wide -lined Paper; 1.5" 3 Ring Binder; Kleenex (175 count or more); Clorox Wipes.

Summer Grocery Store

The Bridges Backpack Program plans to run the Summer Grocery Store at the Valley City High School FACs room (enter door #W6) on Wednesday nights through August 6, 5pm-7pm.

This is free to everyone to help with the added food need during summer months when children are not in school and school lunch is not available. This grocery store is available for all ages.

The program does get some food from the Great Plains Food Bank and purchases are made with financial donations and grant funds. Local churches and organizations also donate items. We have a container at Faith Lutheran for donation that we will bring to the store.

Suggested items to donate:

Canned Items: *Meat—chicken, tuna, etc. *Soup *Vegetables *Fruit

*Ravioli, Spaghetti O's, etc. *Beans—pinto, kidney, baked, etc.

Other Items: *Cereal *Pasta *Spaghetti Sauce *Alfredo Sauce

- *Peanut Butter *Jelly *Macaroni & Cheese *Ramen Noodles
- *Hamburger Helper *Beverages *Potato Chips *Granola Bars
- *Pancake Mix *Syrup *Oatmeal *Desserts *Cake Mixes/ Baking Materials *Rice



*If any Fridge/Freezer Items, Fresh Fruits/Veggies, please call the church office to coordinate drop off.

*Monetary donations to purchase frozen meats or fresh breads, etc.

Checks should be made out to Bridges Backpack Program and dropped off at Faith or mail to: Bridges Backpack Program, 674 10th Ave SW, Valley City, ND 58072.

Thank you for your support!

Youth News

Sack Lunch Program for Summer



At Our Savior's Lutheran Church on Fridays through August 15 sack lunches will be available to anyone who is in need of a meal, at no cost to them. This is an extension of the Senior High Lunch program, which will return in the fall for this school year. Sack lunches will be served in the downstairs dining area beginning at 11am until supplies are gone for the day. If you have questions or would like to help with this call 845-1328 for more info.



Thrivefest North Christian Music Festival

Since 2018, Thrivefest Christian Music Festival has provided a gathering of hope and inspiration to the Fargo-Moorhead area. This year's event will be held July 25-27 at the Stutsman County Fairgrounds in Jamestown, ND

and will feature 3 days of family-friendly entertainment. Proceeds from the festival support the Rising Hope Foundation. Rising Hope Foundation's mission is to provide shelter and healing while igniting hope and restoration to those freed from the abuses of human trafficking. Thrivefest will feature 4 headlines with 2 states. Primitive and RV Camping are available. There will also be food vendors, kids activities, wagon rides, horse competition and more! Get your tickets and event information at thrivefestnorth.org.



Fall Youth Retreat September 26-28, 2025

Castaway Club + Grades 6-9

Red Willow Bible Camp—Scholarships Still Available!

Red Willow Ministries, located near Binford, ND has officially opened registration for their amazing list of 2025 Bible Camps. You may still sign your kids up for Bible Camp. Please scan the QR code to visit their website, review camp details and register your kids for a wonderful opportunity to grow in their faith and meet new friends. This year, Faith Lutheran is offering a limited number of \$100 scholar-

ships for those attending any 2025 Red Willow Camps. Contact Julie in the office for a special scholarship code. If you have any additional questions about Red Willow registration, contact Erin Metcalf. Thanks!

Permit No. 13 Valley City, ND egateoq .2.U Non-Profit Org.

Return Service Requested Valley City, ND 58072-0606 N 4S 44⊅ 608 PO Box 606 aith Lutheran Church

Church Staff

0654-348 (107) Church Office:

7882-248 (107) :JəqwnN xe7

Website: www.faithlutheranvc.org

moo.liemp@blovbnead.ybnes://ie/M-4 & ybnablo Wendi's E-Mail: wendi.wilmes@gmail.com Jessica's E-Mail: treasurer@faithlutheranvc.org Cyndi's E-Mail: cyndi.r.hill@gmail.com $Pastor^sE$ -Mail: pastor@faithlutheranvc.org E-Mail Address: office@faithlutheranvc.org

Pastor Jamie Desai

Administrative Assistant: Julie Moritz

Treasurer: Jessica Jenrich

Sunday School: Wendi Wilmes Coordinator of Youth Ministry and

Accompanist/ Worship Coordinator: Cyndi Hill

Custodians: Mark & Sandy Brandvold

Rick Bredeson, Cheryl Foell, Council: Kalyn Botz, Matt Brandvold, Phone: (701) 840-1328 Council President: Amy Pederson

Erin Metcalf, Jacob Rohde

"Rejoice! The Lord is near." Philippians 4:5