

Faith On the rise

Faith Lutheran Church ELCA . 309 Fourth Street Northeast . Valley City . North Dakota . 58072
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Calendar/September Fun
Fall Festival

Annual Fall Festival

Saturday, October 11—10:00am-1:00pm

- **Craft Sale • Bake Sale • Gift Baskets**
 - **Quilt Sale • Homemade Lefse • Candies**
 - **The Youth will be serving Lunch-To-Go**
- Barbeque - Chips - Bar for a free will offering**



Men's Group Pancake Brunch—October 19!

It's time for the annual Fall Pancake Brunch! Everyone is welcome to attend the Men's Group fundraiser and enjoy a delicious Brunch and great fellowship. The men will be serving **9:30am-12:30pm**. This will be a free will offering fundraiser. Enjoy Pancakes, Fried Potatoes (a favorite!), Sausage, Apple Sauce, Milk, Juice & Coffee. To-Go containers are available to those who would like to take their meal home.



Celebrate God's Faithfulness!



Nurtured by faithful parents, encouraged by small group guides and Sunday School teachers, welcomed by many of you, our 10th grade youth who have completed the requirements will be making promises to God and our congregation on **Sunday, October 26** at our 9:30am worship service. We give thanks to God for these 10th graders who have open hearts to what God has in store.

They have grown in their relationship with Jesus and we celebrate with them! **Join Ellie Altringer, Addy Gerhardt, Audrey Jacobson, Kassidy Schulz in worship and praise.**



What language does God speak? The Old Testament was written in Hebrew, the New Testament in Greek and Jesus spoke Aramaic. Some of my evangelical friends speak in *tongues* and tell me that is how God speaks to them. The Gospel of John says, *In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God.* (John 1:1) What language does God speak?

God speaking a particular language may seem like a silly question but how does God speak to us? Does God speak to toads and trees, to flowers and bees? My son Nik often goes without shoes when he is walking in nature because he believes God speaks to him through the vibrations of the earth. Maybe God's language is vibration. That would explain why music has such a powerful effect upon us. How does God speak to us?

Our world seems to have a communication problem. We speak *at* each other and do not listen. We speak as if words cannot hurt others. We divide people into word categories by way of words we have invented. I wonder what God thinks about the words we use. Then there is non-verbal language? As a person who makes a living using words, I find it a little disconcerting that my actions may speak louder than my words. How does God speak to us?

This October I would like you to think about all the different ways God speaks to you and how you may have to intentionally pause and listen to the One who speaks to us in a multitude of ways.

May God's words be a blessing to you this month.

Pastor Jamie



It's time for a New Church Directory!

Our church directory will not be complete without you. Join us to celebrate faith and family with our new church family album. Schedule your professional photography session here at Faith. The dates are Wednesday, November 5, 2-8:30pm; Thursday, November 6, 2-8:30pm; Friday, November 7, 2-8:30pm; Saturday, November 8, 10am-4:30pm. To schedule your photo session go to www.ucdir.com, click on photography schedule, church code: ND157, Password: photos. You can also stop by or call the office and Julie will get you scheduled.

Everyone who is photographed by Universal will receive a complimentary 8x10 portrait and a directory! If you would like to purchase photos that is up to you. Your orders should be here in time for Christmas! If you would like to submit a photograph for the directory the cost is \$15 and you will also receive a directory.

We will want to be sure to have your up to date address, phone numbers, emails and household members for the new directory.

We will be calling you if we don't see your name on the list to see if you would like to have your photo included in the directory.



Message from Our Council President

Dear Faith Family,

WOW October already!

It's great to see all the young ones back at Sunday School and excited to learn about the church, the Bible, God, and how to be kind humans. Faith Lutheran has a busy month ahead with lots of activities going on, including the Fall Festival, welcoming new members, Pancake Brunch, and Confirmation—just to name a few!

Don't forget! Sunday, October 12th is Pastor Appreciation Sunday. We will have cake after church as we celebrate Pastor Jamie. There will be a basket available for any cards or special notes you'd like to give him. We are so glad he is here with us!



Also, remember the church directory! If you haven't scheduled a time to have your picture taken, please do so soon. There is no cost to have your photo taken, and everyone (or every family) who participates will receive a free 8x10 photo and a copy of the church directory. Ordering additional photos is completely optional. Please get your time slot filled! If we don't hear from you, a council member will be reaching out to help get everyone signed up.

And BIG thank you to everyone who answered the call to help with Summer Vikes on Central, especially Jake, Cheryl, Sarah, Brenda, and Erin. We appreciate you giving your time for this event. It was a great turnout, and it was wonderful to see so many people spreading the word of faith.

I'd also like to thank all the volunteers who helped with our Fall Cleanup here at Faith Lutheran. I know this is a busy time of year, and your time is valuable. Thank you for giving of yourself to help make our church beautiful, clean, and refreshed!

I leave you with this quote:

"He gives strength to the weary and increase the power of the weak." - Isaiah 40:29

Your Council President,
Amy Pederson





Handbell Choir

The Handbell Choir will kickoff the 2025-26 season with rehearsals tentatively scheduled for Wednesdays at 5:15pm beginning November 12. Jerrold Heide has volunteered to direct the choir and we're looking for interested individuals to take part. If you're interested, please call or text Val at 840-1652 to give us an idea of how many are interested.

Thank You

A special thank you to our friends at Our Savior's Lutheran Church for donating two file cabinets, handbell music and binders. Although our handbells survived the fire, all the music and other accessories did not; this generous donation will be utilized to get our handbell choir reorganized.

*Thank
You*



Epworth United Methodist Fall Bazaar

Epworth's Fall Bazaar is Saturday, October 4 11am-1pm
(680 8th Ave SW)! Enjoy shopping for Gift Baskets, Baked Goods and More!
They will also be serving a soup & sandwich lunch.

Trinity Lutheran Church 2nd Annual Murder Mystery Theater presents **"EVIL NEVER DIES"**



The Halloween 'who-dun-it' that screams for attention!
Did Evil-Eyed Emil return to wreak vengeance on
the citizens of Reaper Junction??



Join Trinity Lutheran for an afternoon filled with suspense...and dessert! Only YOU can crack the case! Sunday, October 5 at 2pm at Trinity Lutheran. Call 845-3837 to make your reservation. This free-will offering mystery theater event is a TLC fundraiser for WELCA Triennial Convention.



Sheyenne Valley Memory Café

The Sheyenne Valley Memory Café will meet Thursday, October 23 at Faith Lutheran Church. Doors open at 1pm with a program beginning at 1:30pm.

The program for September will be "Fire Prevention and Safety." Each month will have a different topic and speaker.

The Memory Care is a free and supportive space for individuals with memory loss and their care partners to connect, enjoy social activities, and learn practical tips. For more information, call City-County Health District at 845-8518 or follow @SheyenneValleyMemoryCafe on Facebook.

Community Thanksgiving Basket Mission 2025

Faith Lutheran is excited to once again participate in the Community Thanksgiving Basket Mission for 2025! These baskets help provide meals to local households in need during the Thanksgiving holiday.

Important Dates:

- 🥄 Basket Packing: Thursday, November 20
- 🚚 Pickup/Delivery: Friday, November 21

How You Can Help:

- Volunteer: Contact Julie in the church office at 845-4390 to sign up.
- Donate: Monetary donations can be:
 - o Mailed to Faith Lutheran Church, P.O. Box 606
 - o Dropped off at the church office
 - o Placed in the offering plate (please label as “Thanksgiving Baskets”)



More information about volunteering and the application process will be shared in the November newsletter. Questions? Contact Krista Johnson, Erin Metcalf, Mary Rausch or Brenda Rohde.

Thank you for supporting this important outreach to our community!

Noisy Offering—Thanksgiving Baskets



We will be receiving a noisy offering on Sunday, October 19 for the Thanksgiving Baskets. 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 September we received \$313.16 for the Access for All Program! Thank you for your generosity.

Respiratory Season Clinic

City-County Health District will be administering Influenza high-dose and conventional Flu vaccines as well as COVID-19 vaccinations on Sunday, October 5, at 10:30am in the Fireside Room. The flu vaccinations are available for ages 6 months thru adult. Ask them about RSV and Pneumonia vaccines for adults. You must bring your insurance card—(Medicare Part B (or other Medicare Advantage Plan), Medicaid, Aetna, BCBS, Sanford Health, Preferred One, Medica (not Select Care), Health Partners/Cigna or United Health Care cards with you and these entities can be billed. CCHD cannot bill any other private health insurer for adults. Those who have other private insurance will need to self pay, and a receipt can be issued upon request for possible reimbursement by your insurer. For any questions, contact CCHD at 701-845-8518.



Public Health
Prevent. Promote. Protect.

WELCA News



The Fall Festival is fast approaching and will be held Saturday, October 11 from 10am-1pm at Faith. Now is the time for all members to finish their craft projects and start making their baking supply list for their bake sale items. We are excited to fill our tables with homemade craft items and baked and canned foods. We have always had great community support for this day, and we greatly appreciate our Faith family support with our WELCA mission Youth will also be serving BBQ lunch to go.

The following are important items to know for the Fall Festival.

- Lefse making day—Sunday, October 5 at 2pm.
 - If you make lefse, please bring your prepared dough
 - We have two griddle set-ups at church
 - If you can roll or fry or package, your help is needed
- Items for the Fall Festival can be dropped off at church Friday, October 10, 9am-5:30pm and Saturday, October 11, 8:30am-9am
- Please price your items—a suggested price list is included in this newsletter to use as a guide when pricing your items.
- Service and Care Leaders—please contact your members with a reminder of the Fall Festival date/times.
- Set up is Friday, October 10 at 1pm—WELCA will be setting up—anyone available is welcome to help.

Pamphlets for the Women of the ELCA 2026 Triennial Gathering are now available on the bulletin board and also a supply is on table by the front door. This is in Des Moines, Iowa, July 2026. A bus is being planned and reserving your spot as early as possible is important so check this out now. If anyone is interested, let me or someone on the WELCA Board know so we can bring those interested together. There is some interest in our local churches with limited spots on the bus that will include multiple pickup areas as well as Valley City.



Devotion shared at our meeting to share with all:

It's virtually impossible to distinguish one grapevine from another among a mix of twisted, intertwined branches and fruit. Each originates from the main vine, but all are bound up in one another, with no hierarchy or fruit-bearing champion. All the branches work together, depending on each other and the vine. Jesus' words are directed the plural "you," as in y'all." You all are branches. You all abide in me, and I abide in you all. You all bear fruit.

These images from nature name the deeply communal, mutual relationship that we have, not only with Jesus, but with one another. We draw love, grace, joy from Jesus the vine, and then together we bear fruit. In John 15, Jesus prunes us from our thinking about faith as a solitary or individual act. Our faith and our ability to bear fruit depend on all the ways we together abide in Jesus, and in one another. WELCA site—Daily Grace John 15:1-11. Vine and the Branches—Bearing Fruit, Together

Our Next Meeting will be Wednesday, October 8 at 3:30pm at Faith.

Enjoy this beautiful fall weather!
Elise Miller, WELCA President

Mission Team News

The Mission Team met Tuesday, September 9th. We are wrapping up our sock drive and want to thank all of you for your generous donations! The socks will be given to APOC (Abused Persons Outreach Center) to help those in need. Starting in October and November, we will hold our Hat and Gloves Drive. These items will go to both elementary schools in Valley City. When buying gloves please keep in mind that it is very important that the gloves be waterproof if possible as they are given to the children who **don't have anything to wear at recess, and we all know kids love to play in the snow ☺**. The schools are so appreciative of our donations!



The other event we have coming up that will be here before we know it is our Christmas Giving Tree event!! For those new to our church, here is a little background to this event. We receive confidential names from school counselors for families in need. We know whether the child is a girl or boy, their age, and the sizes needed. The child is also given the chance to give us other gift ideas they would like. There are two tags made for each child, one for the clothing item and one for the other gift idea. These tags will be put on our Mission Christmas Tree at the beginning of December. You take one of the tags or if you choose you can take two tags and buy two gifts. You wrap the gifts and return them to the church. The families are then contacted to come to the church and pick up their wrapped gifts. This is personally one of our favorite events that our Mission Team puts on. The feeling of helping families at Christmas time is extremely heartwarming.

We wish all of you a very happy fall and if you are interested in joining our Mission Team group, we meet the 2nd Tuesday of each month at 5:30pm. We would love to see you there.

Men's Group News



Fall is officially here and that also means that Men's Group is back to our regular monthly Saturday morning Breakfast meetings. It also means that **it's time for our annual Fall Pancake Brunch. Our Pancake Brunch is scheduled for Sunday, October 19th, serving from 9:30am-12:30pm.** We look forward to sharing this day with our family of Faith and members of other congregations.

This also means that our October **Men's Group Meeting will be Saturday, October 18th at 8am.** At this meeting, we will be doing preliminary preparations to get ready for our Pancake Brunch. We invite any/all of the men of Faith Lutheran to come to our meeting to see what we are all about. Come join in the **'Food, Fun & Fellowship'!**

Community Closet

The Community Closet will be open Monday, October 27, 5-7pm at **Our Savior's Lutheran Church**. Volunteers are needed for Setup, Sunday, October 26, 6-8pm and also to help pack up, Monday, October 27, 7-8pm.



OCTOBER BIRTHDAYS:

1. Addalynn Auka, Brooklynn Auka, Dean Pederson, Lincoln Pilgrim, Blake Shape, Owen Tichy; 3. Bruce Moritz; 4. Jocey Klevgaard, Austin Smith; 5. Zoey Bopp, Mary Rausch, Alex Rohde, Amy Tichy; 6. Christina Sayler; 7. Mike Nix; 8. Camden Schuster; 10. Connie Ehrlin, Brody Tompt; 12. Pat Seiner; 13. Bob Hetler; 14. LaVerne Bjornson, Lorraine Nitschke, Cheryl Peterson; 15. Brian Klevgaard, Jennifer Kohler, Tonya Samuelson; 17. Cindy Knudson; 18. Roger Mulvaney, Carol Oppegard; 19. Mari Anderson, Mark Lloyd, Nate Rausch; 20. Haley Dalglish, Trierre Smith; 21. Martee Lunde; 22. John Ehrlin, Anna Metcalf, Julie Moritz; 23. Clint Meyer, Joey Sayler; 24. Brayden Klevgaard, Carol Moritz, Brenda Ventsch; 25. Elise Miller; 26. Walker Johnson, Dylan Lunn, Dalton Ness, Jan Oppegaard, Peyton Pederson, Brenda Stearns; 28. Tara Nelson, Elizabeth Oppegaard, Olivia Pederson; 29. Melissa Pedersen; 30. Pr. Jamie Desai, Ashley Kellogg, Larry Pederson, Ellie Stearns; 31. Autumn Anderson, Rita Bearman, Gloria Glandt.

OCTOBER ANNIVERSARIES:

1. Mikkal & Wanda Auka; 4. Al & Nancy Sorensen; 6. Kevin & Barb Baasch; 7. Gary & Diane Sommerfeld; 9. Lance & Elaine Jenison; 17. Merl & Tiffany Greenley; 18. Brian & Georgia Welken; 19. Nick & Ashley Horner, Dillon & Tiffani Thomas; 20. Duane & Diana Larson, Shawn & Karla Ranisate; 21. Randy & Kay Bostrom; 28. Chuck & Deb Shape.

SEPTEMBER TRANSITIONS

BAPTISMS: We celebrated God's promise in Holy Baptism for Colton Leif Anderson, born June 13, 2025 and baptized on Sunday, September 14, 2025. His parents are Miranda Erickson and Cody Anderson and big sisters are Ivory and Hunter. God bless Colton and his family.

October Service & Care

****Chair Needed**

Jeff & Jennifer Bergner
Gloria Glandt
Kent & Patty Gronlie
Dallas & Linda Gruebele
Ray & Wanda Haugen
Mark & Cyndi Hill
Ralph & JoAnn Hooper
Ryan & Jessica Johnson
Mark & Krista Johnson
Dennis Hoye & Linda Lane
Randy & Teri McClafin
Ryan & Erin Metcalf
Brandon & Nikki Moen
Cory & Alison Rodin
Greg & Kellie Schulz
Al & Nancy Sorensen
James & Janet Thornton
Gary Wieck
Scott & Wendi Wilmes

*Thank you for serving!

September Attendance

September 7	126	18+ online
September 14	156	36+ online
September 21	157	42+ online
September 28	132	34+ online

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
July	\$18,689.00
August	\$23,412.00
September	\$17,717.00

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



Pastor Appreciation Day 2025

Let us give thanks to God for the faithful leadership and tireless care of Pastor Jamie! Whether preaching the Word, offering counsel, visiting the sick, or praying for our congregation, Pastor Jamie serves with humility, wisdom, and grace. Much of this work happens quietly behind the scenes, but his impact on our lives and faith is immeasurable. We are truly blessed to have such a devoted shepherd among us.

📧 **You're invited!** Join us for cake and fellowship after worship on Sunday, October 12th as we celebrate and recognize Pastor Jamie with gratitude and joy. If you would like to bring a card or note of thanks, there will be a basket available that day for your messages of appreciation.

New Member Invitation and Information Session



Sunday, October 12 we will be having a new member information session at 10:45am in the Fireside Room for those who would like to learn more about us and are considering joining our Faith Lutheran family. If you or someone you know would like to join Faith Lutheran or learn more about us please let Julie in the office know so she can send the invite and information to you. We have had new members joining Faith throughout the year as well. We will officially welcome the new members on Sunday, October 19 during our worship service.



Al & Nancy Sorensen

Celebrating 50 Years of Marriage

Join Al & Nancy Sorensen's family & friends to celebrate Al & Nancy's 50th wedding anniversary on October 3, 2025, 4-7pm in the Family Room (lower level) of the VC Eagles Club.

OCTOBER TEAM MEETINGS

Council—Meets Wed, Oct 8
at 5:15pm

FLC Staff—Meets Wed, Oct 1
at 1:00pm & Wed, Oct 15
at 1:00pm



Men's Group—Meets Sat, Oct 18 at 8:00am

Mission Team—Meets Tue, Oct 14 at 5:30pm

Nov Service & Care— Meets Sun, Oct 19
after worship & by emails texts/ phone

WELCA—Meets Wed, Oct 15 at 3:30pm



Sunday School News

Sunday School runs from 10:45-11:45am.

We welcome all children who are 4 years old up to kids in 6th grade. Our Sunday School runs in station format and we divide up in ages Preschool-1st, 2nd-3rd, and 4th-6th. Our stations this year are art, games, and creative drama. We have lots of fun learning about Jesus!

Kids will be singing in church on Sunday, October 12th for Pastor Appreciation Day!

There will be no Sunday School on Sunday, October 19 due to No School on Friday due to the Teachers Convention.

Kids Club!

We welcome all kids going into 4th-6th grade to come to our Wednesday Afterschool program called **Kids Club!** We currently have 19 kids from Faith, Our Savior's, and Trinity signed up. Kids Club meets Wednesdays, from 3:15-5pm here at Faith or we go do a service project around the community. The kids are picked up by Wendi with the church van from Washington School and parents then pick them up from Faith.



Schedule for October
Wednesday, October 1—
we will be at Faith
Wednesday, October 8—
we will be at Faith
Wednesday, October 15—
we will be at Faith
Wednesday, October 22—
will be at Faith
Wednesday, October 29—
Service Project Day!

Pictured: The groups are sharing their highs and lows with each other. Thank you Wendi Wilmes, Rebecca Westman and Pastor Jamie for leading the groups! The kids bring lots of energy and fun each week!



Youth News

Important Info for 10th Graders being Confirmed!

Here are some important dates for the Confirmands:
Wednesday, October 1—Meet with Pastor Jamie at 6pm.
Wednesday, October 8—Meet with Pastor Jamie at 6pm
to discuss projects



Banquet for Confirmands will on Sunday, October 19 at 6pm

(Invite parents, siblings, grandparents, godparents, mentors, and guides to come!)

Confirmation will be Sunday, October 26 at 9:30am at Faith!

Confirmation Information

This year, we will be joining together again with Our Savior's and Trinity Lutheran Churches for our Confirmation sessions on Wednesday evenings!

Confirmation is here at Faith through October from 6:30-8pm. A light snack will be offered from 6-6:30pm for kids who are hungry after school and sports.



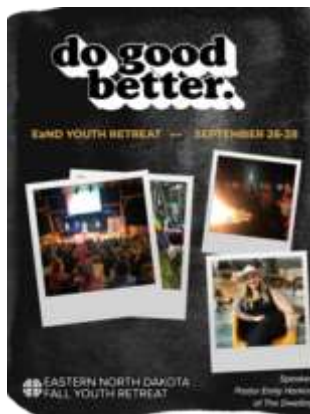
YOU CAN HELP



On **Wednesday, October 15** we will be having our 4th **Annual Community Action Night Food Bank Collection!** The Confirmation students will be going around Valley City with their small group leaders to collect food for our local food pantry!

Castaway Club Retreat

Wendi Wilmes, Rebecca Westman, and Pastor Jamie took 13 kids who were 6th graders up to 9th graders to Castaway Club in Detroit Lakes the weekend of September 26-28! This year's theme was **"Do Good Better"**. We all truly had a blast! It was so much fun to worship God with other youth from around our area, and we had a great time with all the fun activities they had to offer there.



Junior High Youth Group

You're Invited to Trunk-Or-Treat!

We will be participating in the Trunk-or-Treat event at Chautauqua Park on Friday, October 24 from 5:30-7pm. We will be decorating a trunk and wearing our costumes as we hand out candy to kids coming through!! After the event, we will come back to Faith for pizza!

Kids and parents please watch for more information soon!

We will be accepting donations of wrapped Halloween candy for us to pass out!



Faith Lutheran Church
 PO Box 606
 309 4th St N
 Valley City, ND 58072-0606
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Church Staff

Pastor: *Pastor Jamie Desai*

Administrative Assistant: *Julie Moritz*

Treasurer: *Jessica Jenrich*

**Coordinator of Youth Ministry and
 Sunday School:** *Wendi Wilmes*

Accompanist/ Worship Coordinator: *Cyndi Hill*

Custodians: *Mark & Sandy Brandvold*

Council President: *Amy Pederson*
Phone: (701) 840-1328

Council: *Kalyn Botz, Matt Brandvold,
 Rick Bredeson, Cheryl Foell,
 Erin Metcalf, Jacob Rohde*

E-Mail Address: *office@faithlutheranvc.org*
Pastor's E-Mail: *pastor@faithlutheranvc.org*
Cyndi's E-Mail: *cynid.r.hill@gmail.com*
Jessica's E-Mail: *treasurer@faithlutheranvc.org*
Wendi's E-Mail: *wendi.wilmes@gmail.com*
Sandy's E-Mail: *sandy.brandvold@gmail.com*



Website: *www.faithlutheranvc.org*

Fax Number: (701) 845-5887

Church Office: (701) 845-4390

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