

Faith On the rise

Faith Lutheran Church ELCA . 309 Fourth Street Northeast . Valley City . North Dakota . 58072
Volume XXVIII Issue VI Monthly June 2026

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Congratulations Class of 2026!



Pictured: (back row, l-r) Brooklyn Botz, Brenna Storly, Mavrick Ludwig, Jackyn Thornton, Kaleb McClafin, Trey McPartland, Jack Samuelson; (middle row, l-r) Autumn Anderson, Madison Frieze, Mazie Ludwig; (front row, l-r) Faith Schmidt, Lauren May, Abby Wilmes, Alyssa Wilmes,

We were honored to recognize this wonderful group of graduating high school seniors on Sunday, May 17. We thank them for greeting, ushering, reading and helping with communion. Each graduate received a homemade quilt made by our own Faith quilters. Thank you Julie May for presenting them. Please let them know how proud we are of them and how special they are. We continue to keep them in our prayers as they venture on to the next chapter of their lives.

We Welcome You to Join Us for Worship!

June begins our summer months of worship. We will continue with our 9:30am Sunday morning worship services. 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. You may also watch worship services on YouTube/vcfaithlutheran.



*Search me and know my heart,
test me and know my anxious thoughts. Psalm 139:23*

The transition into summer provides us with a chance to pause from the hectic, craziness that are our lives and do a little introspection. Psalm 139 reminds us that God knows our hearts and is concerned about our anxious thoughts. Let me give you a few thoughts above things you probably never knew.

At least 5 people love you so much they would die for you.

At least 15 people love you in some way, shape or form.

The only reason someone would hate you is because they want to be like you.

A smile can bring happiness to anyone, even if they do not like you.

If not for you, someone would not be living.

You are special and unique.

When you make a mistake, something good comes from it.

When you think you have no chance of getting what you want, you probably won't get it, but if you believe in yourself, probably, sooner or later, you may get it.

Tell someone how you feel about them, you will feel much better when they know.

If you have a friend, take some time to let them know you GREAT they are.

They say it take a minute to find a special person, an hour to appreciate them, and a day to love them, but an entire lifetime to forget them.

Take some time this summer to live and love as God intended you to.

God bless and keep you this June,

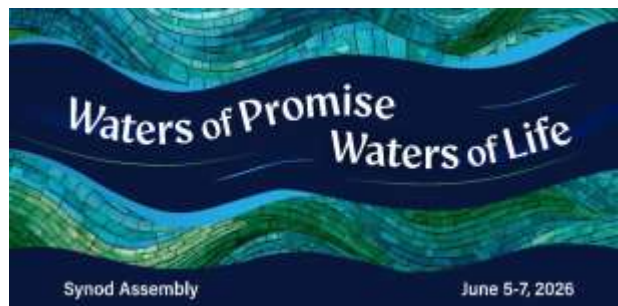
Pastor Jamie



Eastern North Dakota Synod Assembly

Jacob & Brenda Rohde and Pastor Jamie will be attending the EaND Synod Assembly on Saturday, June 5 and Sunday, June 6. We thank them for attending the Synod Assembly. This is great experience for anyone who would like to attend in the future.

This year at the Synod Assembly will be the Bishop election. The current Bishop Tessa Moon-Leiseth is up for re-election and the other nominees are Rev. Amy Eisenmann, Rev. Carter Hill, Rev. Kristi Weber.



Message from Council President

May has passed very quickly. It has been a busy and meaningful month at Faith Lutheran, marked by **senior graduation recognition, the CROP Walk, the Men's Pancake Brunch, the rummage sale,** recognition of our Sunday School teachers and helpers, and Vacation Bible School.

Our summer schedule will remain unchanged, with Sunday worship continuing at 9:30am. As summer often includes vacations, weddings, and family gatherings, we kindly ask that you continue to remember your regular giving during these months.

Your council continues to meet monthly and remains committed to maintaining our church as a beautiful and welcoming place for all. We are also continuing our efforts to strengthen and balance the general fund. If you have suggestions or questions, please feel free to speak with any council member.



I would also like to extend sincere thanks to Kathy Schlotman for her care of the Altar/Chancel area and for preparing communion each week. We are deeply grateful for her faithful service. I also wish to thank Nancy Sorensen for coordinating the rummage sale. If you have the opportunity, please join me in thanking them for so generously sharing their time and talents.

I leave you with this reminder from Scripture:

“Trust in the Lord with all your heart, and do not lean on your own understanding. In all your ways acknowledge him, and he will make straight your paths.” - Proverbs 3:5-6

Your Council President,

Amy Pederson

Thank You Soundboard Technicians!

We would like to thank and acknowledge our soundboard technicians for their dedication to be sure we have sound for worship services and to livestream the services so everyone at home can join us for worship as well. Thank you Tyler Van Bruggen, Brian Yanish, Scott Johnson, Kylie and Maya Van Bruggen. Thank you Abby and Alyssa Wilmes for being our backups as well! We are so thankful for each of you! If anyone would be interested in learning to run the soundboard please talk to one of our soundboard technicians.



Sunday School Teachers—Thank You!

Our Sunday School teachers were recognized on Sunday, May 3rd. We would like to thank them for being a part of our children's lives and teaching them about God and Jesus and the Bible stories. You are helping grow our kids' faith! Thank you!



Pictured (l-r): Abby Wilmes, Brenna Storly, Alyssa Wilmes, Ashley Horner, Jessica Johnson, Pastor Jamie, Zach Wilmes (helper), Wendi Wilmes.
Not Pictured: Angela Van Bruggen, Kylie Van Bruggen.

Celebrating 30 Years of Music ... Summer of 2026

Music in the City Park Bandshell

Wednesday Evenings @ 7:15 pm
City Park, 440 4th St. SW, Valley City, ND

- June 3** Red River Valley Veterans Concert Band, Fargo
- June 10** Project Constellation, Grand Forks
- June 17** The Original Buffalo Alice Band
- June 24** El Zagal "Imperials" Big Band, Fargo
- July 1** Oakland Grove, Valley City
- July 8** Maasjo Sisters, Valley City
- July 15** Kohlabri Soup, Fargo
- July 22** F-M Golden Notes, Fargo-Moorhead
- July 29** Norsky Brothers, Fargo
- August 5** Karma, Valley City
- August 12** Greg Hager, Valley City

A freewill offering is taken each week to support the Bandshell & Music in the Park. Due to inclement weather, programs will be moved to VCSU Rehearsal Center at the Arts. (Phone to 800C 1840 - or follow us on FB @NDMUSICCOUNCIL) @NDMUSICCOUNCIL

Special thanks to the sponsors who help make Music in the Park possible ...

For your Summer Listening Pleasure



Summer Afternoons

In the Pioneer Park Amphitheatre

Sunday afternoons @ 5:30 pm

Pioneer Park, 800 4th St. NW

Bring your lawn chairs/blankets. A freewill offering will be taken each week. Due to weather, we will move to the Vault on Central.

- June 28** - Joseph DeMasi, singer/songwriter, Valley City
- July 5** - Comedy Show featuring Jenny Lou Russi
- July 12** - Kolby Tangen, acoustic music, Fargo
- July 19** - Kringen Accordion Band, Fargo
- July 26** - Dennis Warner, singer/song writer, folk music
- August 2** - 12 String Guitar Jazz Duo

Special Thanks to our sponsors ...

- 1st Community Credit Union
- Moore Engineering, Inc.
- Valley City Tourism
- KLJ Engineering
- Valley Ment Supply
- Myran Sommerfeld
- ND Council on the Arts
- Dacotah Bank
- Groberg Electric
- Eagles Aerie 2192
- VCPR



Summer Grocery Store

The Bridge Backpack Program/Hi-Liner Pantry Summer Food Assistance will be offering the Summer Grocery Store again this year. The Summer Grocery Store will be open every Wednesday evening June 3 - August 5, 5-7pm at the Valley City High School. Enter VCHS Door #W6 (NW corner of high school) - watch for OPEN sign by the door.



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 will have a box at Faith Lutheran for donations 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; Mac & 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 mailed to: Bridges Backpack Program, 674 10th Ave SW, Valley City, ND 58072.



Sheyenne Valley Memory Café

If you or a loved one is experiencing memory loss, this is an opportunity to connect and visit with healthcare professionals and individuals. The Memory Café will meet Thursday, June 25, 1-3pm. **June's presentation** on Well-being will be presented by Teri Undem.



Peggy Lee Day in Valley City Friday, June 19, 7pm, enjoy a Free Program at the Larry J. Robinson VCSU Fine Arts Center. Program will feature the Myron Sommerfeld Band with vocalist Miss Bonnie Lynn, along with special guests Joe DeMasi and Maddie Klabo. Please bring Food Items for the Barnes County Food Pantry.



WELCA News

On May 8, Fatih WELCA along with Trinity WELCA and Our Savior's WELCA hosted Coffee Time with St. Raphael residents from Faith, Trinity, Our Savior's in the Coffee Shop for Mother's Day. Family and friends joined us for coffee, punch and treats with our members. We had many attend, and all had a good time visiting and enjoying the fellowship.

WELCA did not meet in May and will not have monthly meetings during the summer so our next meeting will be Wednesday, August 13 at 3:30pm at Faith. Some dates to look forward to for WELCA members in early fall are below so mark those down and save them on your calendars.

September 26, 2026—Annual EaND SWO Convention at Zion Lutheran Kum, ND—date is set and planning underway with more information to follow. Save the date now and gather your yarn and batting to donate.

October 11, 2026—Faith Fall Festival date is set so make your plans now for this successful Faith Mission!

The following is a devotion from the Daily Grace page that is an example of resources that can be found on WELCA website: womenoftheelca.org

This summer you might try checking out this WELCA site for lots of information.

"Rocking chair prayers" by Kimberly Knowle-Zeller

In the early years of motherhood, I found myself sitting in the back of the sanctuary during Sunday worship. Whether one child was throwing a fit or one needed to nurse, sitting in the back allowed us to be present for worship, but also far enough from others to not cause a scene.



Rocking in the rocking chair there, with a baby nestled against me, I watched the congregation: up and down in the pews, listening to the stories of God's people, mothers coloring with children, fathers doling out snacks, teenagers fidgeting. All of it holy. All of it worship.

I learned in those early years of motherhood that this time in worship could all be prayer. I'd rock and pray. And the more I saw the people in front of me, the more prayers I had to offer. I may not remember the Bible stories or the sermon, but these prayers I remember.

However you're praying, God hears you. God hears the whispers of your heart and the screams from your gut.

Wherever you are and however you feel, look around and see God's people inviting you to pray. For your life is a prayer.

*This message is excerpted from "Rocking chair prayers" by Kimberly Knowle-Zeller in the May/June 2023 **Gather** magazine.*

Holding you all in prayer,

Elise Miller, WELCA President

Mission Team News

Mission Team met on Tuesday, May 12th. Thank you for providing the items needed for the Celebration Cake Kits! We put together 40 kits this year and thank you to Diane Sommerfeld for taking 30 of those to the Barnes County Food Pantry. SMP Health—St Raphael received a kit as well. Thank you to Elise Miller for taking the remaining kits to the Summer Grocery Store. Our community really appreciates receiving them.

The CROP Walk was held on May 6th. There were 159 students and adults that walked. The amount raised has not been determined at the time of this newsletter. Thank you to Elise, Diane, Kay, Deb, Barb, and Laney for helping out at our Malaria themed booth.

As you are out and about during the summer and start noticing Back to School supplies sales, please consider purchasing some basic supplies. Beginning in July we will be collecting school supplies for our elementary schools. We will have supply lists available in future newsletters and bulletins. The supplies we collect are provided to the schools and the teachers use these as a resource for students who may not come to school with the items needed or may run out. They use it for new students throughout the year who join their classes as well.

The Mission Team will not meet in June or July. We extend an invitation to anyone who would like to join our team to come to the meetings on the second Tuesday of each month.

Have a wonderful summer!

Sandy Brandvold, Chairperson



Noisy Offering—Barnes County Food Pantry



We will be receiving a noisy offering on Sunday, June 21. The offering received will be going to the Barnes County Food Pantry. During the summer months the Food Pantry may be used by more families due to the kids being out of school. Families also utilize the Summer Grocery Store to help with the increased need. The kids will **come around during the Children's Word with their pails to collect your loose change and dollar bills.**

In May we received \$292.32 for the Summer Grocery Store! Thank you for your generous giving. You are making a difference in the lives of those in need!

Calendar of Cakes Americana Style

CHI Mercy Health Auxiliary Calendar of Cakes Americana Style will be Thursday, June 11th at Faith Lutheran, 2pm. Free will Donation. Doors open at 1pm. 2:30pm—Cake Tasting and Program by Fetsch Sisters. 3:30pm—Chance Auction. Preview and Bid on Chance Auction Items. Chance Ticket Prices: \$1 for one, \$5 for six, \$10 for twelve.





JUNE BIRTHDAYS:

1. Bud Anderson; 3. Ella Radke, Grace Struble; 4. Alice Bergan; Kyzer Hovland, Matt Jenrich, Aaron Larson; 5. Kathy Holm; 6. Kelly Mallette; 7. Mike Schmidt; 8. Gloriann Gaarder; 10. Brandon Larson; 11. Derik Brockopp, Cheryl Foell, Brent Gustafson, Wanda Haugen; 12. Jack Altringer; 13. Colton Anderson; 15. Tyson Hovland, Ellie Larson; 16. Rowan Nathan; 17. Scott Brockopp, Deb Shape, Gavin Welken, Halle Welken; 18. Brooklyn Botz, Paige Fischer; 20. Richard Anderson, Becky Kratz; 21. Courtney Jorissen; 22. Don Burke, Oakleigh Johnson, Cole McGough; 24. Kaycee Earnest, Della Heide; 25. Rylan Biggers, Sandy Brandvold, Mary Stearns, Kent Swanberg; 26. Dan Johnson, Mabeth Kudrna; 27. Ray Haugen, Jackson Larson; 28. Hadley Rischmiller, Max Rischmiller, Peggy Williamson; 29. AJ Kotta; 30. Junette Christianson, Bill Friestad, Kathy McGough.

JUNE ANNIVERSARIES:

3. Larry & Deloris Welken; 5. Mark & Patty Lloyd; Roger & Sandy Mulvaney, Mark & Jody Svenningsen; 6. Colton & Jenny Roberts; 7. Steve & Tara Nelson; 8. Andy & Sam Carlson, Warren & Brenda Ventsch; 9. Tony & Kaila Cooley; 10. Bailey & Sarah Duffy; 12. Scott & Deb Beilke, Zach & Jill Rischmiller; 17. Al & Sherri Adams; 20. Jere & Erin Heide; 24. Jeff & Ashley Roe; 27. John & Jennifer Kohler, Jake & Brenda Rohde; 28. Bud & Verna Anderson, Brent & Janis Wallender.

May Memorials

In memory of Gordon Svenningsen given by Duane & Diana Larson (Undesignated).

May Service & Care

**Cheryl Foell

**Joe & Martee Lunde

Matt & Allison Anderson

Jan Arneson

Justin & Brianne Foell

Marlys Hilborn

Jordan & Mercidez Lunn

Jamie & Pam Lunn

Leah Radke

Church & Deb Shape

Brent & Janis Wallender

*Thank you for serving!

May Attendance

May 3	130	
May 10	128	70+ online
May 17	158	22+ online
May 24	90	32+ online
May 31	(not included)	

Offering

January	\$20,643.00
February	\$28,046.00
March	\$22,464.00
April	\$22,960.50
May	\$25,651.00

(May 31 not included)

Needed monthly to meet Mission Plan:
\$24,295.67

2025 Church Directories

Our new church directories are here and ready for you to pick up! Everyone who had their picture taken or submitted a photo receives a directory. If you would like to purchase a directory they are \$15 each.



JUNE TEAM MEETINGS

Council—Meets Tue, June 16 at 5:30pm

FLC Staff—Meets Wed, June 10 at 1:30pm

Property Committee—Meets Mon, June 15 at 7:00am

July Service & Care— Meets Sun, June 21 after worship & by emails texts/ phone

Men's Group, Mission Team, WELCA do not meet in June or July

FLC Spring Rummage Thank You!

Our church rummage sale, held May 29-30, 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:

- **Money raised for Faith's General Fund**
- Great conversations and joyful fellowship among congregation members and others
- 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:

Faith Lutheran Church quilters—jeans

Community Closet—children's clothing, winter gear, and kitchen items

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



Men's Group News

Hilsen fra Norway! I was in Norway celebrating Syttende Mai at the time of our May Pancake Brunch. So my report will be a second hand report. From what I have heard, our Brunch turned out to be very successful once again.

I would like to say a Big Thank You to Mark Brandvold for taking charge in my absence to make sure that Brunch was run smooth and that everything was ready. Thanks to Al, Joe and Greg for getting the supplies and to all of the guys for distributing poster, help to get ready and for all of the good help the day of the Brunch. Thanks to Julie for always helping us in various ways.

Now, no Brunch would be possible or successful without the support from our members. So Thank You to all of you, 'our family of Faith', to members from other congregations, residents of Valley City and surrounding communities. We appreciate each of you for your support and Friendship.

Our Men's Group doesn't have our regular meetings in the summer months, but we fill in with special events. June 17th, We will have a potluck picnic at Sayler's residence at Sibley. More details about this event will be sent out later. We invite any of the men in our congregation to be a part of our group.

May GOD Bless all of you and may you have a very enjoyable summer.

Duane Larson

Vacation Bible School Highlights

VBS was held May 26, 27, and 28 for the kids going into Kindergarten through 6th grade! It was hosted at Our Savior's but it was put on by Faith, Our Savior's, and Trinity. We had a wonderful three days and had so much fun. We were blessed with 65 children participating in VBS. We had 13 youth volunteering to be the leaders for the ages groups.

Thank you to Anna Metcalf, Harper Nathan, Abby Wilmes, Grady Samuelson, and Joey Saylor for helping with VBS!



Kids Club!

The Kids Club had a blast finishing off their school year by spending a fun time at Wendi's parents' lake cabin on Lake Ashtabula despite the cooler weather!



Thank you to Wendi Wilmes, Rebecca Westman and Pastor Jamie for leading Kids Club each week!

We look forward to another great year of Kids Club this fall.

Youth News

Junior High Youth

We will be going to a Redhawks game on Tuesday, June 23rd! We will leave from Faith at 5:15pm, as the game starts at 7:02pm. The cost per ticket will be \$10 and please bring extra money for food at the game. Watch the Remind app for a text to sign up soon!



Summer Youth Trip—July 20–July 21

Current 7-12th graders! This is your last chance to sign up for the summer youth trip! We will volunteer at Feed My Starving Children, Global Health Ministries, and enjoy time together at Valleyfair.

We will have a mandatory student/parent meeting on Monday, June 22 at 7pm in the Gathering Room at OSLC. At least one parent and the student should be in attendance. Contact Kyla Fetsch at youth.oursaviorsvc@outlook.com with questions or to sign up. Cost of the trip is \$100, however, fundraising opportunities are available!



Don't miss out on this memorable experience!

Splash into Faith

Our Savior's Lutheran is hosting the Staff of Red Willow Bible Camp for a Day of Summer Camp in Valley City! Students in Grades 7-12 and Adults will be needed as volunteers to help with registration, serving food, and as small group leaders. Please contact Pr. Jared at Our Savior's to volunteer. Registration Link for children (K-6 Grade) is open! Use the QR Code below to register.



Church Staff

Pastor: Pastor Jamie Desai

Administrative Assistant: Julie Moritz

Treasurer: Mary Rausch

*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, Rick Bredeson,
Cheryl Foell, Randy McClaffin,
Erin Metcalf, Jacob Rohde*

E-Mail Address: office@faithlutheranvc.org

Pastor's E-Mail: pastor@faithlutheranvc.org

Cyndi's E-Mail: cyndi.r.hill@gmail.com

Mary'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

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