



Walking in Faith

Faith Lutheran Church ELCA . 309 Fourth Street Northeast . Valley City, ND . 58072
Volume XXVIII Issue IX Monthly **September 2026**

The office will be closed
Monday, September 7 in
observance of Labor Day.

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Sunday Worship Service—9:30am **Sunday School—10:45am**

September 13 we transition to our fall worship schedule. We welcome you to Sunday morning worship w/Holy Communion at 9:30am.

Following worship we invite you to enjoy a cup of coffee/juice/ water and a treat and enjoy

visiting with each other. If you are unable to attend worship in person, please join us as we livestream the services from our YouTube channel: [vcfaithlutheran](https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCvcaifhLutheran).

The first day of Sunday School is September 13 at 10:45am!

Sunday School runs 10:45-11:45am. If you haven't registered your child you can go to our Facebook page: Faith Lutheran Church Valley City and click on the jotform link. There is also a link on our website: www.faithlutheranvc.org under Ministries then click on Education to find the form. You can use the QR Code to take you to the form. If you haven't registered your child before Rally Sunday we will have forms available for you to fill out.

We are all looking forward to seeing all the kids smiling faces and excitement as we begin another school year!



Rally Sunday -September 13!

People of all ages join us for Faith's
Rally Sunday Carnival starting at 10:45am!

We will have a donut walk, BINGO,
and carnival style games!

After the carnival is over at 11:45am, people
of all ages stay for lunch to celebrate all
the kids coming back to Sunday School!



Greetings people of Faith Lutheran Church,

As we find ourselves on the cusp of Fall, I am filled with a sense of excitement and hope! The arrival of this season brings not only a change of season but also the opportunity for new beginnings within our community of Faith.

We have a new logo to start off this fall (please check it out). Soon we will have the opportunity to show our Faith spirit by owning a Tee-shirt or Sweatshirt with the Faith logo.



Rally Sunday is on the thirteenth of this month, I encourage you to participate in the various opportunities for spiritual growth, fellowship and service. As part of the ELCA's *God's Work our Hands* we have the opportunity to distribute cookies to our friends and neighbors who may need a little encouragement. We all have different gifts and talents to share, and I am looking forward to us coming together to inspire one another and serve our neighbors.

Additionally, I invite you to reflect on the blessings God has given you and consider how you might give back to others.

As we begin this new season together, let us remember the words of 2 Corinthians 5:17; In Christ we are a new creation, the old is gone and the new is here!

I look forward to seeing you on Sunday the thirteenth as we together embrace this season of new beginnings.

Blessed be the Name,

Pastor Jamie



Message from Council President

I extend my sincere appreciation and a heartfelt thank you to the Evangelism Team and their volunteers for the outstanding Back-to-School Luau. It was a wonderful event, and your dedication and hard work are truly appreciated.

I would also like to express my special gratitude to Duane Larson and Linda Lane for faithfully filling in during Pastor's absence throughout the month of August.

Rally Sunday is quickly approaching! What is Rally Sunday? It marks the beginning of our Sunday School, Kids Club, and Confirmation programs for the year. I would like to recognize Wendi Wilmes for her exceptional leadership of our youth ministries. If you have any questions or are interested in assisting in any capacity, please reach out to her.

I hope everyone has had an opportunity to see our new church logo. We are grateful to Alyssa Wilmes for her creativity and artistic contribution in designing it. Please be patient with us as we work toward making merchandise featuring the new logo available.

As we transition from summer, whether spent at the lake, traveling, or enjoying time with family and friends, we warmly welcome everyone back. We look forward to gathering with you in worship each Sunday. Worship keeps us grounded in God's Word and strengthens our connection to one another.

I leave you with this quote:

"If it wasn't for the struggles, you wouldn't be as strong as you are today. God is always building you up, even when it feels like He's breaking you." Psalm 28:7

Your Council President,

Amy Pederson



Help Shape Our New Church Sign!

We are looking for a few congregation members to serve on a Church Sign Planning Team to help evaluate and recommend a new exterior sign for our church building.

The planning team will work together to:

- Explore different sign styles, materials, and options.
- Gather quotes from sign companies.
- Seek input and ideas from members of the congregation.
- Consider visibility, accessibility, and long-term durability.
- Review budget considerations and recommend the best value.
- Partner with Church Council throughout the process and present a final recommendation for approval.
- Help oversee the project through installation, if needed.

If you are interested in serving on this planning team or would like to learn more, please contact the church office or speak with a member of the Church Council. We would love to have your help as we work together on this exciting project!



Bridges Backpack Summer Grocery Store

The Summer Grocery Store was open again this year every Wednesday evening June 3 through August 5 to help with the increased grocery need during the summer months for families although everyone is welcome to use the grocery store.

During those 10 weeks, we had an average of 30 families (households) participate each week, which included average of 45 children and 56 adults. The food for the grocery store was provided by the Great Plains Food Bank, food donations and food purchased for the monetary donations and grant funds that are received by the Bridges Backpack Program. Great Plains asks that we weigh the food to record the food distributed through the pantry. During these ten weeks, the grocery store provided 8,472.2 pounds of food to the shoppers.

Big thank you to our church members who brought food donations each week that we brought to the store, it was very appreciated. It was mentioned one member even shared the use of the Menards rebate checks to purchase food for the store!!

Bridges Backpack focus now moves to Backpacks for elementary schools and parents can enroll their children in that program by contacting the schools and the Hi Liners pantry. We will continue to collect for the pantry at this time items like granola bars, Nutri grain bars, cheese or peanut butter sandwich crackers, pudding or fruit cups.

Again, thank you for your continued support! We are looking for another board member so if you are interested in serving on this board, please talk with Scott Johnson or myself as we can let you know what a great group it is and only couple meetings a year, but great rewards!!

Elise Miller
Bridges Backpack Program



16th Annual Back to School Luau!

A very BIG THANK YOU to everyone who helped make this year's "Back to School Luau" a success! Your time, talents and treasures helped support Faith Lutheran Church, Faith Lutheran Youth and the Barnes County Food Pantry. We couldn't hold this yearly event without your help and are truly grateful for each and every one of you. Thank you to everyone who helped prepare and serve the food.

Everything was delicious! Thank you Wendi Wilmes and Youth for running the Cake Walk and those who brought items for the Cake Walk. It's a hit for all ages! Thank you the Evangelism Team—Brenda Klein, Tonya Samuelson, Erin Metcalf, Diane Busche, Sarah Friestad, Stephanie Ness, Jacob & Brenda Rohde and their families for leading this event each year. We also want to thank Pastor Jamie for being our taste tester and being a welcoming face at the door.

Please extend a thank you to neighbors, friends and family who attended as their presence matters to our mission and community. We look forward to seeing you at next year's event! Thanks again!

Men's Group News

RedHawks win!!! RedHawks win!!! On Wednesday evening August 12th, 10 member of our Faith Lutheran Men's Group traveled to Fargo to watch RedHawks baseball game. This being our August group activity, was our 6th annual Baseball game. The RedHawks didn't disappoint us as they won the game vs. Sioux City by a score of 9-1. Out of the 6 years that we have been attending a game, the RedHawks have now won 5 out of the 6. The weather cooperated, the rain stayed away, the temperature was pleasant and it all combined for a very enjoyable evening. Plus the fellowship shared was once again very enjoyable. Hopefully we can take in a game again next year and maybe continue to bring the RedHawks good luck.

Now that Fall is back again, we will resume our regular Saturday morning Breakfast meetings. The September gathering will be on Saturday morning, September 19th at 8am. We still want to invite any/all of the men of Faith Lutheran to come to a meeting and check out what we do and share in the Fun times that we have. If any of you have questions about our Men's Group, please feel free to talk to any of the guys that are currently involved. If you aren't sure who to talk to, contact Julie in the office and she can direct you to one of us.

We close by once again asking GOD to Bless all of our members, our family of Faith!

Duane Larson

Pictured: (back row,
l-r) Randy McClafin,
Kevin Baasch,
Joe Lunde,
Gary Sommerfeld,
Mark Bartle,
Duane Larson;
(front row, l-r)
Larry E. Sayler,
Larry H. Sayler,
Pastor Jamie,
Brent Wallender.



Faith Visitation Team

The Faith Visitation Team continues to enjoy our visits with members of our congregation who are not able to attend services and activities. Our visits are very informal and allow us to share memories, stories and laughter. If you or someone you know would like to be included in these visits, please call Val Moritz at 840-1652 or contact Julie in the church office.

Fall blessings from your Visitation Team: Jody Johnson, Cheryl Foell,
Joe and Martee Lunde, and Val Moritz





Women
of the
EVANGELICAL
LUTHERAN
CHURCH
IN AMERICA

WELCA News

Faith WELCA met on Wednesday, August 12 and will continue to hold monthly meetings at the church the second Wednesday each month at 3:30pm. All Faith women are welcome to join these meetings.

Annual EaND SWO Convention at Zion Lutheran Church, Kulm, ND—*Joy ... Joy of the Lord is Your Strength*” Nehemiah 8:10b; the date is set for September 26, 2026, and planning is underway.

- **Registration deadline: Sunday, September 13** *Jeanne Wobbema—mrs wob@gmail.com - 701-230-8745. Meal: \$15, paid for at the door. PLEASE REGISTER by the deadline so hosts can plan food quantities. SIGN UP sheet will be on table to coordinate rides.

- **IN KIND OFFERINGS:**

- Kedish House: are gathering supplies to put in 13 schools for teenage girls. Personal Care Items (for high school girls): body wash, shampoo, conditioner, deodorant, tampons and pads, toothbrush and paste, Chapstick.
- Jamestown Correctional Center: yarn and fiberfill and have need for plastic crochet hooks size 5.5mm or size I.

A drop box will be available to collect the above items donated and we will take to the convention.

Faith Fall Festival date is set for **October 10, 2026** so make your plans now for crafting, canning, and baking for this successful Faith Mission!

Lefse Making SUNDAY October 4 afternoon—will be planned if we have interested and experienced lefse makers who are able to help on this date. Please contact Elise 840-0687 or the office if you are available to make lefse October 4. Watch for final decision closer to the date.

Next WELCA meeting will be Wednesday, September 9 at 3:30pm at Faith—join us—all are welcome.

Elise Miller, WELCA President

Mission Team News

The Mission Team met on Tuesday, August 11th to pack up all the school supplies that were donated by you, our wonderful congregation members! These school supplies will be used for the children that can't afford school supplies or for those who may perhaps move to our community mid-school year and not have school supplies. Thank you for donating!

Our “Sock Drive” will start September 1st. We hope to see many colorful socks of all sizes in the collection bucket. The socks are given to APOC (Abused Persons Outreach Center) and used for their clients that may have had to leave their houses in a hurry and weren't able to pack socks. Thank you for donating!

The Mission Team meets the 2nd Tuesday of each month at 5:15pm. We would love to have you join us.





God's work.
Our hands.

God's Work Our Hands—Cookie Request

An Annual Day Devoted to Love of Our Neighbors and Church. We Celebrate the ELCA, Service, Community ELCA Churches Across Country Activate in God's Name: "God's work. Our Hands." is the ELCA's annual day of service taking place

September 13, 2026. It is a blessed opportunity for all our congregations to celebrate who we are as a church, engaging in projects and activities that explore our convictions as Lutherans: that all life in Jesus flows from a living, daring confidence in God's grace. The ELCA is one church, freed in Christ to love and serve our neighbor every day.

As this statement from the ELCA website states, this is a time that Faith members can stop and celebrate who we are as a church and the many mission projects and activities we support as we love and serve our neighbors every day throughout the year.



This year we are asking if our bakers of the congregation would again help in baking your delicious cookies. We would ask for a dozen or two of cookies to be delivered to the church by Friday, September 11. If you want to put 4 or 6 in an individual bag that would be great but if not, we will put them in individual bags at the church.

Then, come **Sunday September 13** we will be asking those in church to **'Take one and Give one.'**

As a thank you for ALL congregation members who **do** God's work in our mission here at Faith we invite you **to take** a bag of cookies to enjoy and also take another bag of cookies **to GIVE** to someone you don't know yet but have been wanting to welcome to your neighborhood or apartment building. Or take to the nursing home, Bridgeview Estates or The Legacy Place at coffee time and have a visit and a treat! Share some smiles and a lot of kindness and God's love in a visit; simple hello and a small treat with a few cookies. God's Work. Our Hands. SO —

If you can, please bring cookies by September 11 and then come on Sunday, September 13 and plan to 'Take one and Give one' - share our Good News with the community doing God's work. If you have any questions, please call the office.

Noisy Offering—Access for All

We will be receiving a noisy offering on Sunday, September 20. The offering received will be going toward the Access for All Program. It provides free serves for students in need of professional clinical counseling. The kids will come around during the Children's Word with their pails to collect your loose change and dollar bills.

In August we received \$333.64 for the Bridges Backpack Program! Thank you for your generous giving.

Sheyenne Valley Memory Café

Sheyenne Valley Memory Café will meet **Thursday, September 24, 1-3pm** at Faith. The program will be Woodworker/Storyteller Jerry Ness. This is a free & supportive space for individuals with memory loss and their care partners to connect with others and learn practical tips. Learn more on facebook.com/sheyennevalleymemorycafe or 701-253-6396.



SEPTEMBER BIRTHDAYS:

1. Chloe Sayler; **2.** Lisa Limesand, Haley Sayler, Brian Welken; **3.** Erika Dalgliesh; **4.** Corbin Germann, Nicole Larson; **5.** Scott Beilke, Jenna Biggers, Scott Johnson, Linda Moser, Michael Schmidt II; **6.** Patty Myers, Ridge Rischmiller, Taylor Storhoff; **7.** Emery Wiebe; **8.** Jack Kohler, Katie Kohler; **9.** Cooper Bopp, Rhonda Friestad, Al Sorensen; **10.** Ayden Ness, Dave Pedersen; **12.** Lois Brandvold, Brenda Swanberg; **13.** Frankie Ashline, Reagan Holm, Tyler Van Bruggen, Vicki Zinck Metcalf; **14.** Jerry Busche, Jess Ranisate; **16.** Kay Bostrom; **17.** Barb Baasch, Justin Foell, Jacee Klein, Jenna Mairs, Aaron Schuster; **19.** Loree Morehouse; **20.** Deb Beilke, Austyn Thornton; **21.** Alex Jenrich, Tyson Jenrich; **23.** Jessica Johnson, Steve Nelson; **25.** Raven Middlestead; **26.** Owen Struble; **27.** Miranda Erickson, Waylan Starr; **28.** Patty Altringer, Shiloh Bjornson, Shane Germann; **29.** Amelia Wiebe; **30.** Carson McGough.

SEPTEMBER ANNIVERSARIES:

4. Rick & Audrey Bredeson; **5.** Danny & Mikayla Newton, Brett & Em Stearns; **6.** Greg & Kellie Schulz; **9.** Matt & Rachel Kilmon; **16.** Leighton & Dianne Smith; **21.** Kermit & Jill Pederson; **22.** Mark & Jill Foss, Tom & Ashley Kellogg; **23.** Mike & Vicki Z. Metcalf; **26.** Ralph & JoAnn Hooper; **27.** Joe & Reneé Martin, Brian & Brooke Yanish.

August Transitions

DEATHS: Our sympathies to Ron Peterson and the family and friends of **Lee Ann Peterson**. Lee Ann died Saturday, August 8, 2026. Her Funeral was here at Faith on Saturday, August 15, 2026 with Pastor Jamie officiating.

September Service & Care

****Jack & Val Moritz**
****Don & Kathy Schlotman**

Kaila Cooley
Paulette Everson
Gloriann Gaarder
Paul & Nancy Hilborn
Cindy Knudson
Margie Lima
Lorraine Nitschke
Sandi Pollock
Connie Ronholm
Mark & Jody Svenningsen
Brian & Brooke Yanish

*Thank you for serving!

August Attendance

August 2	52	52+ online
August 9	62	10+ online
August 16	137	36+ online
August 23	88	10+ online

(August 30 not included)

Offering

January	\$20,643.00
February	\$28,046.00
March	\$22,464.00
April	\$22,960.50
May	\$32,502.50
June	\$15,021.00
July	\$17,861.00
August	\$21,577.00

(August 30 not included)

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

SEPTEMBER TEAM MEETINGS

Council—Meets **Wed, Sept 16** at **5:15pm**

FLC Staff—Meets **Wed, Sept 2** at **1:30pm**

Men's Group - Meets **Sat, Sept 19** at **8:00am**

Mission Team—Meets **Tue, Sept 8** at **5:15pm**

Property Committee—Meets **Mon, Sept 14**
at **7:00am**

October Service & Care— Meets **Sun, Sept 20**
after worship & by emails texts/ phone

WELCA—Meets **Wed, Sept 9** at **3:30pm**

Blessing of the Backpacks

Sunday, August 16th we blessed the children's backpacks during worship. We prayed for the children as they prepare for the new school year. Each child also received a tag to put on their backpack with a Backpack Blessing that reads ***"LORD BLESS THIS BACKPACK and the child who carries it. When they carry their backpacks may they be reminded of the love and guidance that surrounds them each day. Always keep them safe and in Your loving care. Throughout this school year, may they gain the tools to grow in knowledge, love and faith. Allow them to be the best student they can be. Give them confidence when they are anxious, comfort when they are afraid and encouragement when they are tired."***



August Memorials

In memory of **Dan & Bea Faust** given by Karen Nitschke (Endowment Foundation).

In memory of **Marlys Kunze** given by Joe & Martee Lunde (Endowment Foundation); by Jack & Val Moritz (Marlys Kunze); by Karen Nitschke (Endowment Foundation).
In memory of **Lee Ann Peterson** given by her family (Undesignated); by Marlene Bartz (Undesignated); by Randy & Kay Bostrom (Sunday School); by Junette Christianson (Sunday School); by Cheryl Foell (Undesignated); by Gloriann Gaarder (Undesignated); by Gladys Gerr (undesignated); by Karen Homan (Undesignated); by Linda Janish (Undesignated); by Mark & Krista Johnson; by Duane & Diana Larson (Undesignated); by Joe & Martee Lunde (Undesignated); by Doug & Leona McPherson (General Fund); by John & Elise Miller (Altar Guild); by Jack & Val Moritz (General Fund); by Jerry & Carol Moritz (Undesignated); by Julie Moritz (Undesignated); by Roger & Sandy Mulvaney (Undesignated); by Joan Noeske (General Fund); by Dean & Amy Pederson (General Fund); by Ron Peterson (Undesignated); by Lila Rohwedder (Undesignated); by Dave & Carol Smith (Undesignated); by Al & Nancy Sorensen (Undesignated); by John Stearns (Undesignated); by Warren & Brenda Ventsch (Undesignated); by Cindy Waagen (Undesignated); by Brend & Janis Wallender (Undesignated); by Jerry & Julie Yokom (Undesignated).
In memory of **Robert "Dempsey" Rein** given by Virgil & Tami Kratz (Undesignated).
In memory of **Pat Triebold** given by Virgil & Tami Kratz (Undesignated).

Sunday School

Sunday School resumes on Sunday, September 13th! We welcome any child who is 4 years old or close to being 4 up to kids who are going to be 6th graders to come to Sunday School! **Sunday School will run from 10:45-11:45am.** Please talk to Wendi to register your child if you haven't done so yet.



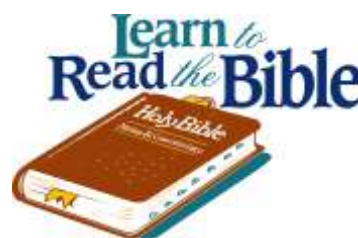
Thank you to Angela Van Bruggen, Kylie Van Bruggen, and Ashley Horner for volunteering their time to teach our kids about Jesus!

We are still in need of 2 more Sunday School teachers!!

Third Grade Bibles

Sunday, September 30th 3rd graders will be receiving their first reader Bibles during the 9:30am worship service.

Pastor Jamie will then be leading a class about the Bible for our 3rd grade students and a parent or another adult family member at 10:45am (during Sunday School) in the Fireside Room. This way the kids will get to use their new Bibles to learn how to look up the scripture readings and read their Bibles. Parents, a letter will be mailed out with information also. If you have a 3rd grader and don't receive a letter by September 21 please contact us.



Kids Club!

We welcome all kids going into 4th-6th grade to come to our Wednesday Afterschool program called Kids Club! You should have received an email to sign up your child! Please sign your child up ASAP so Wendi knows how many kids to pick up from Washington. 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.



Kids Club will be starting Wednesday, September 9th!

Wednesday, September 9—we will be at Faith

Wednesday, September 16—we will be at Faith

Wednesday, September 23—we will be at Faith

Wednesday, September 30—Service Project Day

Senior High Lunch on Mondays!



Students in grades 9-12 are all welcome to come to Our Savior's on their regular lunch hour to enjoy lunch together! Students who want to know what is on the menu should join us in the Spond app with the code HQKIQ. Adult volunteers who would like to help out with serving, cleanup, or desserts should talk to Kyla at Our Savior's. We would love to have you!



Youth News



Important Info for 10th Graders being Confirmed!

- Banquet for Confirmands will be on Sunday, October 18 at Faith!
- Confirmation will be on Sunday, October 25 at Faith!

Parents please watch for more information about the times that the students will meet with Pastor Jamie soon!

Confirmation Information

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

We will be having a Parent and Student Meeting on Wednesday, September 9 at 6:30pm at Faith to talk about the year.

Confirmation will resume for the students on Wednesday, September 16.

We are looking for Small Group Leaders for Confirmation again this year! We are hoping to have 2 adults per group, so the adults can take turns being there on Wednesdays. Please contact Wendi if you are interested in helping out!



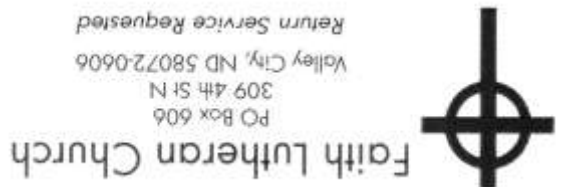
Castaway Club Retreat

Wendi will be taking a group of kids (6th grade kids to 10th grade) from Faith, Our Savior's, and Trinity to Castaway Club in Detroit Lakes the weekend of September 25-27! This truly is a wonderful experience for our youth at a beautiful resort. The kids that have come with on this trip in the past have truly LOVED it!

Junior High Youth Group

On **Saturday, September 19** we will go to Jamestown to help at the Kiwanis Against Hunger event! So many individuals struggle to afford the food they need to fill the hungry bellies of their families. In Stutsman County alone, nearly one in three children are on free and reduced lunches at school. How can you help? Join us as we come together with Mercy Meals to pack 70,000 meals in one day! We will leave from Faith at 8:15am. We will help from 9am-12pm and then we will grab lunch after we are finished. Please bring money for lunch! Watch for more information to sign up soon!





Non-Profit Org.
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Permit No. 13

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: Kalya Botz, Rick Bredeson,
Cheryl Foell, Randy McClaffin,
Erin Metcalf, Jacob Rohde

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Wendi's E-Mail: wendi.wilmes@gmail.com
Sandy's E-Mail: sandy.brandvold@gmail.com



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Website: www.faithlutheranvc.org

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