

# FAITH ON THE RISE

Faith Lutheran Church ELCA . 309 Fourth Street Northeast . Valley City . North Dakota . 58072  
Volume XXV Issue XI Monthly **November 2023**

Office Closed November 23 & 24 in observance of Thanksgiving

## Affirmation of Baptism Sunday—October 29 *God will be with you wherever you go - Joshua 1:9*

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Pictured (back row, l-r) Abby Wilmes, Alyssa Wilmes, Brenna Storly, Pastor Jamie, Kaleb McClafin, Mavrick Ludwig, Jack Samuelson; (front row, l-r) Lauren May, Autumn Anderson, Faith Schmidt, Mazie Ludwig, Jacksyn Thornton.

A Prayer for our Confirmands,  
You are becoming the person God designed you to be, a person of faith—a person with strong values—a person who loves God and other people. As you confirm your faith in Christ, may God’s Spirit of love, joy, peace and grace become more and more a part of your spirit. In every situation and relationship be the person you believe Jesus wants you to be, trusting always that Christ will be with you—no matter what! Be strong in the knowledge that you are deeply loved by God, your Creator, and deeply loved by all of us, too! God bless you in Christ forever! Amen.

## Church Staff

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*Coordinator of Youth Ministry and Sunday School:* Wendi Wilmes  
*Accompanist/ Worship Coordinator:* Cyndi Hill  
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Welcome to November and winter! We have experienced our first snowfall so we cannot deny winter is here. The change of season brings with it a sense of new beginnings. In the midst of our hectic, anxious and stressed lives, this time of year can give us the opportunity to reevaluate our lives and where God provides us with a sense of purpose and direction. It is easy to lose our way in this fast-paced world filled with unlimited conveniences and incredible technology. We are overwhelmed by the abundance of both opportunities and material possessions yet we are still longing to fill our soul's hole with something the world cannot give. The "thing" we are missing is God! Often times we wait for God to be revealed to us in big, dramatic and remarkable ways and when it doesn't happen we assume God is not here or that God is distant or He does not care. But that is not how God reveals Himself, rather God comes to us in common, ordinary and day-to-day ways. In the beauty of new fallen snow, in the smile of a friend or loved one, in a kind gesture from a stranger. God has given us eyes of faith for seeing the holy and sacred in the common and ordinary.

May the month of November, with its change of season provide you the opportunity and excuse to see and appreciate the variety of ways God is revealing Himself through His people and His creation. I invite you to join me in the day-to-day encounters with others who reveal that God is alive and well living among us in this fast-paced modern world we live in today. Use this month to go deeper with God by seeing Him in the everyday, ordinary ways He reveals Himself to us. Take the time to pause, let go of the overwhelming issues of the world and breathe in the goodness of God.

Happy November and may God bless and keep you,

Pastor Jamie



# Youth News

## Confirmation Information



Confirmation will now be at **Our Savior's Lutheran Church** for the months of **November-January from 6:30-8pm**. A light snack will be offered from **6-6:30pm** for kids who are hungry after school and sports.



There is **NO** Confirmation class on **Wednesday, November 22** due to Thanksgiving break!

## Jr High/Sr High Youth Groups

Please come help fill **Thanksgiving Baskets** on **Thursday, November 16 at 5:30pm**. Then come help pass out the baskets and do deliveries on **Friday, November 17 from 5-6:30pm**.

When we are done delivering the baskets, we will stay for pizza and watch the movie, **"Jesus Revolution"** at the church! Watch emails for more info soon!



## Service Project Night for Confirmation!

Wednesday, October 18th we had the **Great American Food Race** here at Faith Lutheran for our Confirmation kids from Faith, Our Savior's, and Trinity! The kids broke up into their small groups and went around Valley City to collect food for the Barnes County Food Pantry. When they came back to the church and weighed all their food to see which group had the most! Congratulations to the **7th Grade Boys** for having the most! All the kids did such a great job! The whole group collected **980 pounds** of food to donate to the Food Pantry. Thank you so much to the community for donating the food to them!

The group of **7th Grade Boys** that won the **Great American Food Race** are Cooper Anderson, August Hochhalter, Brady Lutt, Gavin Welken, Joey Saylor, Grady Samuelson, Mercer Boom, Bentley Wiser.

They are celebrating their win with cupcakes!



## Pastor Appreciation

Sunday, October 8th, we celebrated Pastor Jamie and thanked him for all he does among us and continues to do each day. We enjoyed coffee and cake during fellowship hour.

The cake has on it the verse, Matthew 4:19 "Come and follow me," said Jesus, "and I will make you fishers of men."

Such a fun design with fishing Bobbers, lures and gummy worms. ☺



## Sunday School

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

No Sunday School on Sunday, November 12th due to the long weekend from school.

On Sunday, November 19th we will be having youth PreK-6th Grade lead parts of worship service! We are planning on doing this the 3rd Sunday of every month! These kids will also be singing in church on these Sundays. Parents watch for more information soon!



## Christmas Program

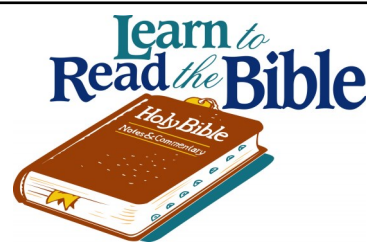


Our Christmas Program is schedule for **Sunday, December 17th** after church (around 10:45am)! Parents please watch your emails to let me know if your child will want a speaker part!

We will start practicing on **Sunday, November 19th!**

## Third Grade Bibles

**Sunday, November 5th at 10:45am** (during Sunday School time), Pastor Jamie will be leading a class about the Bible for our 3rd grade students and a parent or another adult family member. Then on **Sunday, November 19** these 3rd grade students will receive their Bibles at the 9:30am worship service.



The 3rd grade parents will be receiving a letter in the mail about the class. If you have a 3rd grader and don't receive a letter please let the office know.

## Kids Club

We welcome all kids going into 4th-6th grade to come to our Wednesday Afterschool program called **Kids Club!** We currently have 18 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 November

Wednesday, November 1—at Faith  
Wednesday, November 8—at Faith  
Wednesday, November 15—at Faith  
Wednesday, November 22—NO KIDS CLUB  
Wednesday, November 29—Service Project Day

Happy Thanksgiving



## Senior High Lunch

Senior High Lunch is on Mondays at Our Savior's! Wendi will be helping the 2nd and 4th Mondays of each month. The freshmen lunch is served at **11:15am** and the 10th-12th graders will be served at **12:10pm.**

## All Saint's Sunday—November 5

We celebrate the baptized people of God, living and dead, who make up the body of Christ. We celebrate the victory won for all the faithful dead, but we grieve for our beloved dead as well, knowing that God honors our tears. During the worship service we will remember those who have died in the past year. A candle will be lit for each person as their name is read. Those at worship may also light a candle in remembrance of a loved one that has went on before them.



## New Member Invitation



Sunday, November 12, we will be having a meal and information 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 FLC or learn more about us please let Julie in the office know.

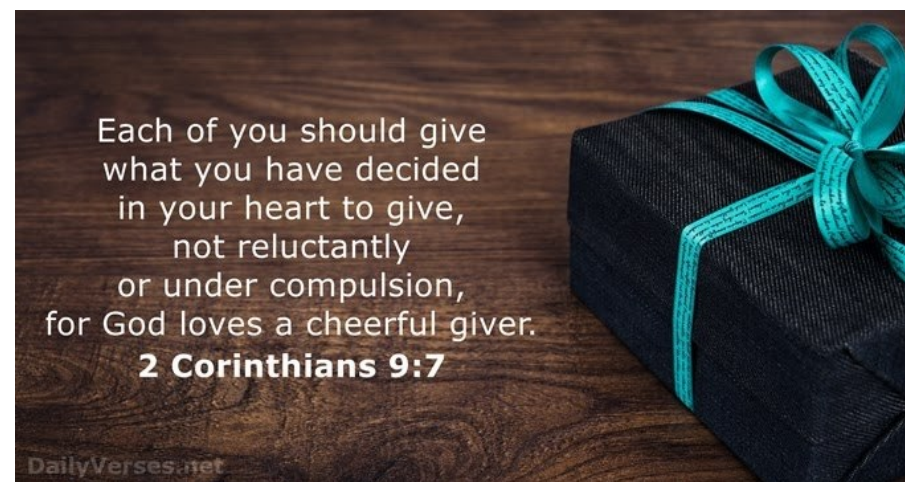
## Year Round Stewardship

In October we concentrated on stewardship and what that means and looks like when it comes to financial support of the church. Sunday, October 22nd we had the congregation turn in their completed pledge cards with what they planned to give to Faith Lutheran in 2024. Thank you to all who have turned in their pledge cards. You can still turn in your completed pledge card to Julie in the office.

We thank you for your continued financial support, active participation and prayers to help our congregation thrive. There are several ways you can give financially. You may drop your offering envelope, check or cash in the offering plates Sunday mornings. You may mail your contributions to our church PO Box 606 or drop it by the office. You may also give online. This is a great option especially for when you are unable to make it to worship because of illness, travel, or other circumstances. To set up online giving go to our website: [www.faithlutheranvc.org](http://www.faithlutheranvc.org). You may use your QR Reader to take you to the website as well. Click on the button in the upper right corner that says Give Online.



Then follow the prompts to set up your log in and password. The General Fund donations button is what you would choose for your regular offering. There are also choices for other funds that you may give to also. We thank you for all that you give to Faith Lutheran and hope that you prayerfully consider your ability to give a little more.



Each of you should give what you have decided in your heart to give, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver.  
**2 Corinthians 9:7**

DailyVerses.net



### Open House Invitation

Please join us for an Open House coffee party on **Thursday, November 9, from 2-4pm** to celebrate **Lois Brandvold** before she moves to South Dakota.

We will miss seeing Lois here but we rejoice that she will be closer to enjoy time with her daughter, Pat and her grandchildren and great-grandchildren in South Dakota.

### Faith Visitation Team



The Visitation Team is always looking for opportunities to reach out to those who may enjoy an in-home visit. Please call Val at 840-1652 or Julie in the church office 845-4390 if you would like to be included or know someone we should visit.

Nancy Ost brought special Halloween Treat Baskets when she visited Laurette Zachrison and Mark Hill at SMF-St. Raphael. Look at those beautiful smiles on their faces!

Thank you to the Visitation Team! You brighten up your people's days with each of your visits!



### Community Thanksgiving Baskets



The 2023 Community Thanksgiving Basket event will be taking place again this year! Basket assembly is scheduled for **Thursday, November 16, 5:30-6:30pm at Faith Lutheran**. Basket deliveries are scheduled for **5pm Friday, November 17** and pick-ups will begin at **5:30pm**, also at Faith Lutheran. Friends from Our Savior's Lutheran and Trinity Lutheran Churches will be joining us. We are thankful to share this ministry with them.

All age and ability volunteers needed. A sign-up sheet will be in the gathering area. Please indicate what day(s) you are available. Please contact Julie in the office or Erin Metcalf if you have specific questions about this event. Confirmation students, this is a great service project to be involved in!

These Thanksgiving Baskets are filled with items to prepare a traditional Thanksgiving meal. Each basket cost will cost around \$55 and includes turkey, potatoes, vegetables, pie and more.

We have posters up at Social Services, City-County Health, Skyline Villa and other select locations around town. If you or someone you know would like to receive a basket please call the office to get on the list. The deadline to sign up is **Friday, November 3rd**. We will be giving out 125 total baskets this year. What a wonderful way to reach our community.

We are beginning this year with a lower amount in savings for this project so we hope you will consider giving a monetary donation of any size toward the Thanksgiving baskets. You may send your donations to Faith Lutheran—PO Box 606, drop it off at Faith or enclose it in one of the donation envelopes and mark it Faith Lutheran Thanksgiving Baskets and put it in the offering plate. You may also go to our website: [www.faithlutheranvc.org](http://www.faithlutheranvc.org) to make a donation.

**Volunteers are an important part of this project. We are grateful to all who give of their time, talents and monetary gifts so others may enjoy a traditional Thanksgiving dinner with their families.**



### Trinity Lutheran Church Fall Festival



The Trinity Lutheran Fall Festival will be **Saturday, November 4th. The Bake & Lefse Sale will be 10:30am-1:30pm. Luncheon Hours will be 11am-1:30pm.** They will be serving a Baked Potato Bar, Salad & Dessert. Tickets are \$10; Age 6 & under \$5. Lunch Pick up and Delivery available 11:30am-1pm. Call 845-3837. **New this year... Christmas Corner!** Gently-used Christmas items & décor. Hosted/Sponsored by Trinity Lutheran WELCA.

### NOVEMBER TEAM MEETINGS

**Council—Meets Tue. Nov 14 at 5:15pm**

**FLC Staff—Meets Wed, Nov 8 at 1:30pm**

**Men's Group—Meets Sat, Nov 18 at 8am**

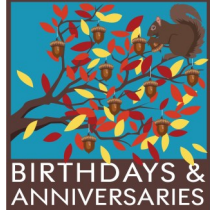
**Mission Team—Meets Tue, Nov 7 at 5:30pm**



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

**WELCA—Meets Wed, Nov 15 at 3:30pm**

**NOVEMBER NOVEMBER BIRTHDAYS:**



2. Nick Horner; 3. Brad McKay, Teanna Perdue; 4. Damon Bong; 5. Doug McPherson, Jace Thompson; 6. Lexia Nix; 7. Mavrick Ludwig, Mazie Ludwig, Megan McKay, Stephanie Ness; 8. Duane Larson, Kermit Pederson; 9. Tony Cooley, Mike May, Larry E. Saylor, Diane Sommerfeld; 10. Shelby Thoreson; 11. Ruby Hansen, Marlys Hilborn, Nancy Hilborn, Ralph Hooper; 12. Kenadie McCullough, Shane Ost; 13. Larry Welken; 14. Hannah Miller, Jenny Roberts; 15. Amanda Pilgrim; 17. Carver Pederson; 20. Devin Haugen; 21. Teagan Klevgaard, Vicki Pedersen; 25. Aston Auka, Josh Kratz, Devyn Thornton; 26. Jayce Auka, Rhett Holm, Kaila Knudson, Ryder Yanish; 28. Joanna Anderson, Sophie Mallette; 29. Joesi Klein, Tony Mikkelsen, Jack Samuelson, Penelope Williams, Victoria Williams; 30. Greg Friestad.

**NOVEMBER ANNIVERSARIES:**

4. Mike & Julie May; 9. Joe & Martee Lunde; 10. John & Elise Miller; 21. Greg & Sarah Friestad; 24. James & Janet Thornton; 26. Adam & Amanda Pilgrim; 28. Jordan & Mercidez Lunn; 30. Darrell & Kathy Holm.



**October Memorials**



In memory of **Lloyd Bruhn** given by Duane & Diana Larson (Undesignated).  
 In memory of **James Henderson** given by Duane & Diana Larson (Undesignated).  
 In memory of **Brady Larson** given by Duane & Diana Larson (Undesignated).  
 In memory of **Sandi Schwartz** given by Duane & Diana Larson (Undesignated).  
 In memory of **Ray Smedhammer** given by Duane & Diana Larson (Undesignated).  
 In memory of **Verna Thoreson** given by Duane & Diana Larson (Undesignated).

**November Service & Care**

\*\*needs chairs  
 Rydell & Suzy Becker  
 Bill & Rhonda Friestad  
 Darrell & Kathy Holm  
 Nickolai & Kayla Holm  
 Keith & Cindy Hovland  
 Bonnie Kramer  
 Mike & Loree Morehouse  
 Roger & Sandy Mulvaney  
 Joan Noeske  
 Beth Oppegaard  
 O'Neil & Jan Oppegaard  
 Larry E. Saylor  
 Larry Saylor  
 Natalie Saylor Meyer  
 Nathan & Marsha Saylor  
 \*Thank you for serving!

**October Attendance**

October 1	73	110+ online views
October 8	116	73+ online views
October 15	128	100+ online views
October 22	109	109+ online views
October 29	199	97+ online views

\*online views are households watching

**Offering**

January	\$18,442.00
February	\$15,343.00
March	\$22,544.00
April	\$25,704.00
May	\$12,775.00
June	\$14,732.00
July	\$20,576.00
August	\$12,836.00
September	\$17,497.00
October	\$18,864.00

Needed monthly to meet Mission Plan:  
 \$21,265.25

**Mission Team News**

November the Mission Team will continue to collect **new socks, new winter caps, mittens and gloves** for donation to our local schools and community. Please note that warm, thick, water-proof gloves are best for our schools since students are playing in the snow at recess. Children may forget, misplace or lose their hats and gloves so having extras available for them is a good thing when it's cold and snowy.

The Mission Team will have a "**Christmas Giving Tree**" for several local families. They will also be collecting items for SMP Health-St. Raphael. The Mission Team will have more details after they meet in November. Information will be put in the bulletin announcements and in the Faith's Friendly Friday Note email.



**Mission Christmas**



The Mission Christmas Fund is low so we encourage you to give to that fund. The loose change received every Sunday and the dollar bills received on the first and third Sundays go into this fund year round. In the month of December this fund is used to provide gift cards from local businesses to members of our congregation that could use them due to illness or other circumstances. Your donations of any size are helpful. Thank you for your generosity!

The next Mission Team meeting will be **Tuesday, November 7 at 5:30pm**. The Mission Team invites anyone who is interested to attend the meeting.

**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, this is for you. The Memory Café will meet the **fourth Thursday of each month, 1-3pm at Faith Lutheran Church**. Coffee and dessert will be available. A brief program, *Powerful tools for Caregivers* will start at 1:30pm.



**Family Fun Hour**

Would you like to get to know other area parents while enjoying a creative activity with your toddler or preschooler? Join us for art activities, supervised play, refreshments, and time for parents to visit and discuss parenting-related topics of interest.



This ongoing group meets the **fourth Tuesday each month, 10:30-11:45am at Faith Lutheran Church**. Sponsored by NDSU Extension - Region 6 Parent and Family Resource Center and funded in part by ND Dept. of Health and Human Services. Contact Amy Tichy at Barnes County Extension, 845-8528, for more information.



**Community Thanksgiving Service**

Everyone is invited to attend the annual Community Thanksgiving Service offered by the Barnes County Ministerial. The service will be held on **Sunday, November 19th at 4pm** at the UCC Congregational Church, 217 4th St NW.



## WELCA News

On behalf of the WELCA Board I would like to thank everyone who contributed in any way to our Fall Festival. I'd like to send out personal thank yous but know I would miss some names, so this is a blanket thank you. It was a wonderful success with an excellent variety of baked goods, quilts, crafts, and baskets. 30 quilts were sold! Together with the monetary donations given, we raised over \$7,500. we also owe the women from Epworth Methodist a thank you for bringing some of their baskets that did not sell at their fall bazaar for us to sell with the many baskets from our members. It is heartwarming to see our relationship with them continue. We will be discussing the disbursements of the monies raise at our November meeting. I'd like to thank those of you who helped make lefse on October 8. We were a smaller group but still had fun. We made about 300 pieces of lefse. Without the contributions from our members, we would not have such successful Festivals. Not only does our church benefit from the proceeds, but many local state, federal and international organizations benefit also.

At our October meeting we voted to allocate \$1,000 to the repair of the church gutters and installation of snow cleats on the roof to prevent damage from snow accumulation. Thank you to the council and property committee for taking such good care of our church home.

The week after the Fall Festival members of the quilters packed up 63 quilts to be sent to Lutheran World Relief. We are blessed to have this group of ladies who continue to be very diligent making quilts for others.

I represented our WELCA at the Eastern ND Synodical Women's Organization Convention September 30 at Messiah Lutheran Church, Fargo, ND. It was informative and good to visit with women from our neighboring churches. I also purchased some Advent presents for my grandchildren from the vendors. It was a good day.

Our next meeting will be **Wednesday, November 15 at 3:30pm.** Anyone interested in attending is more than welcome.

Peace,  
Cheryl Foell,  
WELCA President



## Men's Group News

Come and get your Pancakes, Come and get it - and came they did. Our Faith Lutheran Family showed up once again to support our Men's Group Fall Pancake Brunch. Also members from other congregations and the community showed up to support us.

Special Thanks go to Julie in the office, Joe, Al and Greg for preliminary preparations. To all the wonderful guys in our Men's Group for helping with the Saturday Preparations and Serving the meal on Sunday. To Brody Metcalf for 'being one of the guys' and helping make Pancakes. To Tami Kratz (our photographer) and to Diane Sommerfeld for helping the laundry after the meal. I don't know how to put into words how grateful I am to everyone who helped in one way or another to make our Brunch Fun and Successful once again. GOD's Blessings to each and everyone of you!

Our next Men's Group meeting will be **Saturday, November 18th at 8am.** I would Love to see more Men from our congregation attend to share in all of our Fun and wonderful Fellowship. We really are easy going so you don't have to feel like you wouldn't fit in. we have a motto for Men's Group that we most definitely go by 'Food (we like to eat and serve food ) Fun (no matter if it's a monthly meeting or some activity, we like to make it fun) Fellowship (we always have much good fellowship whatever we do)'. Thanks again to everyone involved and May GOD Bless all of You.

Duane Larson



### Noisy Offering—Mission Christmas Fund

We will be receiving a noisy offering on **Sunday, November 19.** The offering received will be going to the Mission Christmas Fund. The kids will come around during the Children's Word with their pails to collect your loose change and dollar bills. In October we received \$201.57 for the Thanksgiving Baskets! Your generosity continues to make a difference in people's lives. Thank you!



### Ladies Craft Day—Saturday, November 4

Enjoy a day of crafting, fellowship and fun! Saturday, October 7th we will have a craft day from 9am-8pm here at Faith Lutheran. Bring your own craft project or work on card kits (cards will be used by the visitation team). Bring a friend. Stay all day or for a few hours. Bring a lunch or order in. Contact Julie May @ 490-1143 with questions.