

# FAITH ON THE RISE

Faith Lutheran Church ELCA . 309 Fourth Street Northeast . Valley City . North Dakota . 58072  
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## Congratulations Class of 2024



Pictured: (back, l-r) Ethan Miller, Dalton Ness, Carver Pederson, Owen Struble; (front, l-r) Corbin Germann, Kaidence Harstad, Auston Jewett, Cardar Jewett, Darci Jewett.

We were honored to recognize this fine group of graduating high school seniors on Sunday, May 19. We thank them for greeting and ushering for the service. Each graduate received a homemade quilt made by our own Faith quilters. Thank you Leona McPherson 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 to worship Sunday mornings at 9:30am.

During the summer we will livestream the services at least twice a month on our Facebook page: Faith

Lutheran Valley City. Services may also be found on our YouTube channel: [www.youtube.com/vcfaithlutheran](http://www.youtube.com/vcfaithlutheran). If we don't have anyone available to run the camera on a Sunday morning we won't be able to livestream that Sunday. Thank you for your understanding.

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

*Nancy Ost*

*Erin Metcalf, Amy Pederson,*

*Rich Bredeson, Justin Foell,*

**Council: Matt Brandvold,**

Phone: (701)320-4299

**Council President: Michael May**

**Custodians: Mark & Sandy Brandvold**

**Accompanist/Worship Coordinator: Cyndi Hill**

**Sunday School: Wendi Wilmes**

**Coordinator of Youth Ministry and**

**Treasurer: Jessica Jenrich**

**Administrative Assistant: Julie Moritz**

**Interim Pastor: Pastor Jamie Desai**

## Church Staff



**Sandy's E-Mail:** sandy.brandvold@gmail.com

**Wendi's E-Mail:** wendi.wilmes@gmail.com

**Jessica's E-Mail:** treasurer@faithlutheranvc.org

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

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**Faith Lutheran Church**



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“Love your enemies, do good and lend expecting nothing in return.” Luke 6:35

Is Faith Lutheran a *risk-taking* church? We don’t usually think of churches as *risk-taking* organizations. What I mean by *risk-taking* is does our faith push us out of our comfort zones, stretching us beyond our circle of relationships and practices that routinely define our faith commitments. To love ‘those’ who are not automatic, easy or accepted is to extend respect, compassion and mercy not knowing if they will ever be able to repay us. Jesus loved the least lovable and vulnerable and offered the same unmerited grace to the greatest sinner and the finest saint.

*Risk-taking* ministry has us do something for the good of others that we have not considered doing if it were not for our relationship with Christ and our desire to serve him. We already serve those close to us in our community and neighborhood. Here are some examples of what we are currently doing through the ministries of Faith Lutheran: Thanksgiving Baskets, Collecting pajamas & tying blankets for Project Ignite Light, Noisy Offering each month for places needing the funds, Collecting school supplies, Collecting items for the Food Pantry, Collecting items for the Hi-Line Food Pantry and Summer Grocery Store, Giving to the Backpack Program, Christmas gift tree for families in need as well as the Mission Christmas Fund, Crop Hunger Walk, WELCA gives monetary gifts to many charitable organizations with their income from the Fall Festival, Quilts and Personal Health Kits are given to Lutheran World Relief, and the list goes on. It is important for us to continue to look beyond our own social and community circles and consider how Christ desires us to use our gifts and talents to enhance the well-being of others beyond ourselves.

Before *risk-taking* scares you off, let me remind you that doing good to our neighbors not only changes the lives of those we are helping but also changes us and our congregation.

As summer approaches, we are given the chance to reflect upon our ministries here at Faith Lutheran and how we are affecting our Valley City community. Let me give you a few questions to ponder as you reflect on what it means to be a *risk-taking* church:

What ministries is Faith Lutheran known for in the community?

How many community partnerships is Faith Lutheran involved in?

What are three bold risky ways we could be at work in Valley City?

...all we do, our prayer, our work, our suffering is for Jesus. Our life has no other reason or motivation. This is what many do not understand. Mother Teresa

God bless you this June and may the Lord refresh and renew you!

Blessed be the name,

Pastor Jamie



# Youth News

## Junior and Senior High Youth Group

We will be going to a **RedHawks game on Thursday, June 27th!**  
We will leave from Faith at **5:30pm**, 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.



## New Orleans Meeting



We will be having a **parent and student meeting on Monday, June 10th at 5:30pm at Faith Lutheran** for the kids and chaperones who are going to New Orleans for the ELCA National Youth Gathering. We will finalize payments, schedules, and packing lists. Please watch your emails for more information.

## Congratulations 2024 Graduates Jonah Harstad and Will Schwehr!

We would like to recognize and honor Jonah and Will as they graduate. Jonah and Will went through confirmation and were confirmed on May 23, 2021 with this year's graduating senior class. They were an active part of confirmation and we were blessed to have them. Jonah and Will graduated from Barnes County North.



Jonah Robert Harstad  
Son of Robert & Darla Harstad  
Plans: Attend North Dakota  
State School of Science



William Allan Schwehr  
Son of Dan & Kim Schwehr  
Plans: Attend Bismarck State College  
for Electrical



## Sunday School Teachers & Helpers —Thank You!



Our Sunday School teachers and helpers were recognized on Sunday, May 5th. We would like to thank our Sunday School teachers and Helpers for being a part of our children's lives and teaching them about God and Jesus and the Bible stories. You are helping to grow our children's faith! Thank you!

Teachers and Helpers pictured with the Sunday School kids: (back row, l-r) Kylie Van Bruggen, Angela Van Bruggen, Alexis Horner received her mom, Ashley's plant, Jessica Johnson, Addy Gerhardt (helper), Amanda Pilgrim, Brenda Rohde, Wendi Wilmes, Pastor Jamie. Unable to attend: Abby Wilmes, Alyssa Wilmes, Ellie Altringer (helper), Joey Sayler (helper).

## Message from Our Council President

Dear Faith Family,

The Council met on Wednesday, May 15th for our monthly meeting.

One matter of concern that I would like to talk to everyone about is the trees surrounding the church. The Council reopened discussion on this matter after hearing from several members about facts on the trees and the church. I appreciate everyone that took the time to reach out to me on this issue. It was brought to the attention of the council that the trees are a hybrid breed from NDSU to limit the size they achieve. It was also brought to the attention of the council that the foundation of the church is a pier foundation, and the root system of the trees has not yet reached the foundation to give it problems. After a long discussion on this matter the council decided to have the property committee trim any branches that are rubbing against the church and monitor the root system to avoid any issues. The council also agreed that this topic needs to be brought up at the annual meeting and take a vote on how everyone would like to handle this matter. Please reach out to the council if you have any questions.

I would like to thank Matt Brandvold, Brenda Rohde and Pastor Jamie for being our Synod Assembly Delegates this year.

Mike May, Council President



## Eastern North Dakota Synod Assembly

Matt Brandvold, Brenda Rohde and Pastor Jamie will be attending the EaND Synod Assembly on Saturday, June 1 and Sunday, June 2. We thank them for attending as voting delegates of Faith Lutheran Church.



## Vacation Bible School

June 4, 5 and 6 from 12:30pm-5pm.

We will be partnering with Our Savior's and Trinity Lutheran to offer VBS for

kids going into Kindergarten through kids going into 6th graders! VBS is free to attend!

If you haven't signed up yet, you may sign up on the 1st day. See you on June 4th!

**VBS**  
**2024**  
**HERO**  
**HOTLINE**  
CALLED TOGETHER TO SERVE GOD

**JUNE 4TH - 6TH**  
**12:30 - 5:00 P.M.**

HOSTED AT OUR SAVIOR'S  
LUTHERAN CHURCH

LOOK FOR OUR DIGITAL  
REGISTRATION LINK IN THE  
COMING WEEKS!

## Red Willow Bible Camp — Scholarships Available!

Red Willow Ministries, located near Binford, ND has an amazing list of 2024 Bible Camps. You may still sign your kids up for Bible Camp any time. Please scan the QR code to visit their website, review camp details and register your child for a wonderful opportunity to grow in their faith and meet new friends. This year, Faith Lutheran is offering a limited number of \$150 scholarships for youth attending any 2024 Red Willow camps. Contact Julie in the office for a special scholarship code. If you have any additional questions about Red Willow registration, contact Erin Metcalf. Thanks!





### Handbell Choir Performs



The newly formed Handbell Choir performed for the first time on Sunday, May 5th. They performed “Seek Ye First with Pachelbel’s Canon”. This was a wonderful addition to the service and was enjoyed by the congregation. The Handbell Choir is directed by Jere Heide who is the band instructor at VCSU. The hope is to have the handbell choir perform once a month if possible. There are enough people wanting to play the handbells that we will be able to accommodate each other’s schedules. Pictured: (l-r) Julie Moritz, Deb Shape, Val Mortiz, Jere Heide, Cheryl Foell, Brianne Foell, Erin Heide and Erin Metcalf.

### Crayon Organizers for Busy Bags



We would like to thank the quilter group for sewing these adorable crayon organizers for the busy bags! What a great idea to keep the crayons together and not have them fall to the bottom of the bag and get broken. Thank you Ashley Horner for thinking of this and asking our wonderful quilters to help with this project.

If you have a chance you should look in the busy bags to check them out. Each of them are a bit different with different patterns and different ways to roll up and holding different counts of crayons.

### Online Giving

During the summer months many of you are out of town on the weekends. Remember you can set up your giving online our website: [www.faithlutheranvc.org](http://www.faithlutheranvc.org). This way you will be able to continue to give your offering even when you aren’t here in person. Thank you for supporting Faith Lutheran Church and our ministries!



### Welcome New Members!

May 12th we welcomed new members into our Faith Lutheran family. We are so excited to get to know them better and are thankful for their time and talents that they bring to Faith!



Pictured: (l-r) JeriAnn & Shane Everson; Jordyn Everson; Jere & Erin Heide, Della, Claire, Landon; Pastor Jamie; Sydni Smith holding Iva (Austin unable to attend); Katie holding Camden & Aaron Schuster. Russell & Mabeth Kudrna were unable to attend.

### May Memorials



In memory of **Rev. Dan Faust** given by Lois Brandvold (Undesignated); by Mary Johnson (Foundation); by Duane & Diana Larson (Building Fund); by Joan Noeske (General Fund); by Al & Nancy Sorensen (Undesignated).

In memory of **Marilyn Kerbaugh** given by Al & Nancy Sorensen (Undesignated).

### JUNE TEAM MEETINGS

**Council**—Meets **Wed. June 12**  
at **5:30pm**

**FLC Staff**—Meets **Wed, June 12**  
at **1:30pm**

**Men’s Group**—No June-August Meetings

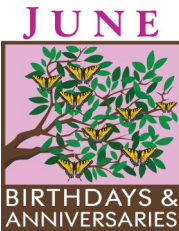


**Mission Team**—No June or July Meetings

**July Service & Care**— Meets **Sun, June 23**  
after worship & by emails texts/ phone

**WELCA**—No June or July Meetings





**JUNE BIRTHDAYS:** 1. Bud Anderson; 3. Ella Radke, Grace Struble; 4. Alice Bergan, Megan Jacobson, Matt Jenrich, Aaron Larson, Gavin Thoreson; 5. Kathy Holm; 6. Kelly Mallette, Maddie Smith; 7. Mike Schmidt; 8. Gloriann Gaarder; 10. Brandon Larson; 11. Derik Brockopp, Cheryl Foell, Brent Gustafson, Wanda Haugen; 12. Jack Altringer, Gunner Holverson; 15. Tyson Hovland, Ellie Larson; 16. Quinten Thoreson; 17. Scott Brockopp, Deb Shape, Gavin Welken, Halle Welken; 18. Brooklyn Botz, Paige Fischer; 20. Richard Anderson, Becky Kratz; 22. Don Burke, Oakleigh Johnson, Cole McGough; 24. Della Heide, Kaycee Smith; 25. Sandy Brandvold, Mary Stearns, Travis Thoreson; 26. Dan Johnson, Mabeth Kudrna; 27. Ray Haugen, Jackson Larson; 28. Hadley Rischmiller, Max Rischmiller, Peggy Williamson; 29. A.J. Kotta; 30. Junette Christianson, Bill Friestad, Kathy McGough.

**JUNE ANNIVERSARIES:**  
3. Larry & Deloris Welken; 5. Mark & Patty Lloyd, Roger & Sandy Mulvaney; 6. Colten & Jenny Roberts; 7. Steve & Tara Nelson; 8. Andy & Sam Carlson, Warren & Brenda Ventsch; 12. Scott & Deb Beilke, Zach & Jill Rischmiller; 20. Jere & Erin Heide; 24. Jeff & Ashley Roe; 27. John & Jennifer Kohler, Jake & Brenda Rohde; 28. Bud & Verna Anderson.

**May Transitions**

**BAPTISMS:** We celebrated God's promise in Holy Baptism for **Bria Rayeann Knutson** born November 23, 2023 and baptized on Sunday, May 19, 2024. Her parents are Cory & Abbi Knutson. God bless Bria and her family.

**DEATHS:** Our sympathies to Bea Faust & family & friends of **Rev. Dan Faust**. Dan died May 3, 2024. His funeral was held here at Faith on May 11, 2024 with Pastor Jamie officiating.

**NEW MEMBERS:** Shane & JeriAnn Everson; Jordyn Everson; Jere & Erin Heide, Della, Claire, Landon; Russell & Mabeth Kudrna; Aaron & Katie Schuster, Camden; Austin & Sydni Smith, Iva.

**June Service & Care**

\*\*Cheryl Foell  
\*\*Joe & Martee Lunde  
Jan Arneson  
Justin & Brianne Foell  
Marlys Hilborn  
Alan & Janie Larson  
Jamie & Pam Lunn  
Leah Radke  
Chuck & Deb Shape  
\*Thank you for serving!

**May Attendance**

May 5	146	83+ online views
May 12	133	82+ online views
May 19	190	83+ online views
May 26	73	79+ online views

\*online views are households watching

**Offering**

January	\$16,113.00
February	\$22,023.00
March	\$24,553.00
April	\$14,355.00
May	\$16,831.00

Needed monthly to meet Mission Plan:  
\$22,752.25

**Thank You!**

Thank you for supporting me in my journey to grow my faith by buying items from my pop up shop. I am so grateful to be part of a church that supports the youth (Youth Gathering). I'm looking forward to the trip and so many amazing experiences I will have.

Love,  
Lauren May



**Summer Grocery Store**

The Bridges Backpack Program plans to run the Summer Grocery Store at the high school on Wednesday nights **June 5-August 7 from 5pm-7pm.**

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

The Program does get some food from the Great Plains Food Bank and purchases are made with financial donations and grant funds. Local churches and organizations also donate items. We 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 \*Macaroni & Cheese \*Ramen Noodles  
\*Hamburger Helper \*Beverages \*Potato Chips \*Granola Bars \*Pancake Mix \*Syrup  
\*Oatmeal \*Desserts \*Cake Mixes/Baking Materials \*Rice  
\*If any Fridge/Freezer Items, Fresh Fruits/Veggies, please call the church office to coordinate drop off.

Thank you for your support.



**Valley City Great Dot Church-Based Bystander Training**

You are invited and encouraged to join **Valley City Green Dot, on Wednesday, June 26, from 5:30-8:30pm at Our Savior's Lutheran Church** to learn and develop bystander intervention and prevention skills to help end violence in Valley City. **This training will be led by Pr. Sharayah Robinson (Kathryn/Nome/Fingal Lutheran Parish) and will be tailored to situations we as church members, leaders, and volunteers might experience.** Supper will be provided, so we ask that you register ahead at [vcgreendot.com/upcoming-events](http://vcgreendot.com/upcoming-events). With questions, contact Pr. Sharayah Robinson at [vcgreendot@gmail.com](mailto:vcgreendot@gmail.com).



**Noisy Offering—Barnes County Food Pantry**

We will be receiving a noisy offering on **Sunday, June 16.** The offering received will be going to the Barnes County Food Pantry. 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 **\$216.87** for the Summer Grocery Store! Thank you for your generous giving.

**Community Closet—June 3rd**

The Community Closet will be open Monday, June 3rd, 5-7pm at Our Savior's. Volunteers are needed to help set up on Sunday, June 2nd, 4-6pm and to help with donations and clean up on Monday, 5-8pm.. Thank you for your helping hands!





## WELCA News

WELCA ladies met on Wednesday, May 8th. Discussion was held how to get the personal care kits and quilts to Lutheran World Relief by Midwest Motors out of Fargo. Deb Shape delivered the personal care kits and quilts from the quilting ladies on Wednesday, May 15th. We decided on the date for the Fall Festival to be Saturday, October 12, 2024. More information to follow in August.

Watch for news on the 2024 Eastern North Dakota Synodical Women's Organization to be held at Sharon Lutheran Church in Grand Forks. It is to be held Saturday, September 28, 2024.

WELCA does not meet in June and July.

Our next meeting will be Wednesday, August 14 at 3:30pm.

Sincerely,  
Carol Smith, WELCA President

## Mission Committee News

On Tuesday, May 7 the Mission Committee met and had an assembly line putting together 55 Celebration Cakes!! It was such fun finishing this project to such a successful ending with all the thanks going to this congregation and Sunday School children! We took forty boxes to the Barnes County food pantry and in June we will take 15 to the Summer Grocery Store.

Thank you also for bring Diapers wipes in May for the annual collection these will be delivered to Community agencies.

As you are out and about shopping during the summer and start noticing Back to School supplies, please consider purchasing some basic supplies, as we will again be collecting school supplies for our elementary schools. Keep watch as we will be the supply list available in future newsletters and bulletins. The supplies we collect are provided to the schools and the teachers use these as a resource that the teachers use for students who may not come with the items needed or may run out. They also use it for new students throughout the year who join their classes. Our own Faith teachers have told us this is a donation very appreciated by the teachers.

The most excitement at our meeting was welcoming two new members! Laney Jenison and Mabeth Kudrna! We are always ready to welcome more! We meet the first Tuesday of each month except June and July.

Everyone have a great Summer!!  
Faith Mission Team



## Men's Group News

Wow! Thank You, Thank You! What a wonderful turnout for our annual Spring Pancake Brunch! Thank You to the members of our congregation, members from other congregations and the community of Valley City in general. We served around 200 meals so we made money to use on projects in our church.

Thanks also to Julie in the office, Joe Lunde, Greg Burchill, Al Sorensen, all of the men who helped hang up posters and to all of the Great Men in Men's Group for the help with preparations on Saturday and who helped to serve the meal on Sunday. We had a lot of good help and we shared much good fellowship.

We won't have a regular Men's Group Saturday Morning Breakfast/meeting now until in September. But on June 19 we are invited to Larry H. Saylor's cabin in Sibley for a Bar B Que. In July we will be going to Mark Brandvold's cabin at the Crossing for a Bar B Que. In August we will be attending a RedHawks Baseball Game in Fargo.

Stay tuned for details on all of these events to be sent out via email. We have a lot of excitement and fun times happening at Faith Lutheran so let's share this excitement with others. Any questions on any of these events or Men's Group in general, please contact any of our members or let Julie in the office know.

We Thank GOD for always being with us so that we can live by our motto, 'Food, Fun, Fellowship.' May GOD Bless all of you.



## Contact Information

Please let the office know if you have moved or have new phone numbers. We try to keep our system up to date as much as we can. Also if a birthday or anniversary is wrong please let Julie know so she can correct that.