

FAITH ON THE RISE

Faith Lutheran Church ELCA . 309 Fourth Street Northeast . Valley City . North Dakota . 58072
Volume XXV Issue X Monthly October 2023


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

Church Staff

Interim Pastor: Pastor Jamie Desai
Administrative Assistant: Julie Moritz
Treasurer: Amy Johnson
Coordinator of Youth Ministry and Sunday School: Wendi Wilmes
Accompanist/Worship Coordinator: Cyndi Hill
Custodians: Mark & Sandy Brandvold
Council President: Justin Foell
Phone: (701) 840-5668
Council: Matt Brandvold, Paulette Everson, Kent Gronlie, Mike May, Erin Metcalf, Sue Milender, Amy Pederson, Nancy Ost
E-Mail Address: office@faithlutheranvc.org
Pastor's E-Mail: pastor@faithlutheranvc.org
Cyndi's E-Mail: cyndi.r.hill@gmail.com
Amy's E-Mail: treasurer@faithlutheranvc.org
Wendi's E-Mail: wendi.wilmes@gmail.com
Sandy's E-Mail: sandy.brandvold@gmail.com



Church Office: (701) 845-4390
Fax Number: (701) 845-5887
Website: www.faithlutheranvc.org


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

Non-Profit Org.
 U.S. Postage
 PAID
 Valley City, ND
 Permit No. 13

IN THIS ISSUE:

Pages 2
A Word from the Pastor
Pastor Appreciation
FLC Visitation Team

Page 3
Word from Council Pres.

Page 4
Bridges Backpack Program

Page 5
Check Out the Library
Thanksgiving Baskets
Noisy Offering

Page 6
WELCA News
Ladies Craft Day
Family Fun Hour
Team Meetings

Page 7
Mission Team News
Sheyenne Vally Memory Café

Page 8
October Birthdays & Anniversaries
Oct Service & Care
Influenza Flu Shot Clinic

Page 9
Pumpkin BINGO
Men's Group News
September Memorials

Page 10
Sunday School
Early Dismissal Day
Kids Club
Jr/Sr High Youth Group

Page 11
Confirmation Info
Castaway Club Retreat

Page 12
Staff Info

Inserts
Calendar/ Activities
Fall Festival/ Bake Sale

Annual Fall Festival

Saturday, October 14—10:00am-1:00pm

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



Men's Group Pancake Brunch—October 22!

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



Celebrate God's Faithfulness!



Nurtured by faithful parents, encouraged by small group guides and Sunday School teachers, welcomed by many of you, 11 students will be make promises to God and our congregation on **Sunday, October 29** at our 9:30am worship service. We give thanks to God for these 10th graders who have open hearts to what God has in store. They have grown in their relationship with Jesus and we celebrate with them! Join Autumn Anderson, Mavick Ludwig, Mazie Ludwig, Lauren May, Kaleb McClaffin, Jack Samuelson, Faith Schmidt, Brenna Storly, Jacksyn Thornton, Abby Wilmes, Alyssa Wilmes in worship and praise.



Does Jesus ever say anything about money? This answer is “Yes”!
 In fact, Jesus has a lot to say about money, success and how we are to steward the gifts God has entrusted to our care. The month of October we will be doing a four-week series with the Gospel passages from Matthew challenging us to unpack how we have heard them before and imagine together what it might be like to participate in the Kingdom of God in the way Jesus invites us to. Here are our four topics.

Week 1 October 1: Financial Success is a Sign of God’s Blessing

Matthew 6:19-24

Week 2 October 8: It’s Your Money

Matthew 22:15-22

Week 3 October 15: Those Who Are Faithful with What They’ve been Given Will Be Given More

Matthew 25:14-30

Week 4 October 22: God Helps Those Who Help Themselves

Matthew 25:31-46

Please join us for this uplifting, informative and challenging series that both helps us unpack the harm of bad theology that has been attached to the topic of God and money along with current attitudes and behaviors toward wealth and possessions. We will help clarify what Jesus had in mind when he preached about wealth, success and possession and what a healthy relationship with money looks like in the Kingdom of God.

Happy October!

Blessings,

Pastor Jamie



Youth News

Important Info for 10th Graders being Confirmed!

Here are some important dates for the Confirmands:

Wednesday, October 4—meet with Nancy Bjerke to go over Banner ideas at 6pm

Wednesday, October 11—make the Banner at 6pm—have Faith Statement ready for Pastor Jamie to look over.

Banquet for Confirmands will be on Sunday, October 22 at Faith at 6pm.
 (Invite parents, siblings, grandparents, godparents, mentors, and guides to come!)

Confirmation will be on Sunday, October 29 at Faith at 9:30am worship.

Confirmation Information

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

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

On Wednesday, October 18th we will be having our 2nd Annual Community Action Night Food Bank Collection! The Confirmation students will be going around with their small group leaders to collect food for our local food pantry!



Castaway Club Retreat!

Wendi Wilmes, Rebecca Westman, Pastor Jamie, and Andy Sather took 17 kids going into 6th grade up to kids going into 10th grade to Castaway Club in Detroit Lakes the weekend of September 15-17!



This year's theme was In the Beginning God Created. We all truly had a blast! It is so much fun to worship God with other youth from around our area, and we had a great time with all the fun activities they had to offer there. Next year, the camp will be happening during the same weekend, so kids going into 6th-10th grade please consider coming with us next year!

Jr/Sr High Youth!

We will be serving **soup-to-go** as a fundraiser during the Fall Festival on **Saturday, October 14th**. Please be watching for a sign up genius to volunteer to help serve the soup or to bring soup to this event. More information will be coming soon!



Pastor Appreciation Sunday—October 8

“I will give you shepherds after my own heart, who will feed you with knowledge and understanding.”

Jeremiah 3:15

We invite you to join us Sunday, October 8th as we celebrate and thank Pastor Jamie for his service and all he does among us. We will enjoy cake and coffee during our fellowship time at 10:30am. If you would like to bring a card/note you may or if you would like to mail it to his address it is 3811 11th Ave S, Moorhead, MN 56560.



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.

Sunday School

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

On **Sunday, October 15** we will be having youth PreK-6th Grade lead parts of the service! We are planning on doing this the 3rd Sunday of every month during the school year! These kids will also be singing in church on these Sundays. Parents watch for more information soon!



Early Dismissal Day

On **Wednesday, October 18**, there is another Early Dismissal Day for Valley City Public Schools. We will partner with youth in grades Kindergarten-6th Grade from Trinity, Our Savior's, and Faith to have an extra special fun afternoon! Wendi will still pick up the youth from Washington in grades 4-6, but the kids in Kindergarten-3rd grade will need to be transported to Faith after school.

More details will be coming out soon about this fun afternoon!
Parents please watch your emails!



Kids Club

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

Schedule for October

Wednesday, October 4 will be at Faith
Wednesday, October 11 will be at Faith
Wednesday, October 18 **EARLY DISMISSAL DAY**
Wednesday, October 25 Service Project Day



Jr High/Sr High Youth Group

Kids Against Hunger

On **Saturday, October 28** we will head to Jamestown to help with the event "**Kiwanis Against Hunger 2023!**" The event runs from 9am-12pm. This is a wonderful opportunity to help pack 65,000 meals in one day for a hungry child.

Parents and students please watch your emails for more info soon!

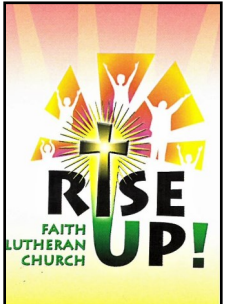
A Message from Our Council President

Happy Fall! Sunday, September 24th we had a fall cleaning day after church to do a deep cleaning of the church and had a great run out! Thank you again to everyone who gave their time and talent to make that happen. Giving our time and talents is what keeps our church going. Speaking of time and talents, if you have not done so please fill out a time and talents card. The council is working on going through those so we can reach out to see how everyone would like to be involved.



Saturday, October 21st will mark the 10 year anniversary of the church fire. We will be planning an upbeat service to celebrate that we are still here as a strong and growing congregation and are looking forward to the many years to come.

God Bless,
Justin Foell, FLC Council President



The Church Is the People

Bridges Backpack Program

There has been a recent change to the Bridges Backpack program, and we want to share that in this newsletter article along with some current statistics of children we are serving with this program.



Our exciting change is that Bridges Backpack Program is now a Charitable non-profit organization 501c3 status and have our own financial account.

As of now, rather than making checks/donations to Faith Lutheran Foundation, all donations can now be made to Bridges Backpack Program. You may still leave your donations in the Faith offering plate or church office and we will get the check/donation to the correct location, or you can also mail your donation to: Bridges Backpack Program, 674 10th Ave SW, Valley City, ND 58072.

We thank you for your past and continued support of this program that benefits the children in our area.

Bridges Backpack Program Over the Last 10 Years

Childhood hunger impacts our community. **Many children in our school district qualify for the federal free and reduced lunch program; however, on weekends many of these children struggle with hunger.** Since the fall of 2014, we have purchased and provided over 46,000 meal kits to elementary students. The child-friendly, weekend meal kit includes three meals and snack items. We use the donation funds received to purchase these kits from Great Plains Food Bank. There are no income qualification to participate in our programs. In partnership with the schools, volunteers from churches and community deliver the weekly kits and school teachers or staff discreetly put them into the child's backpack on the last day of school each week. This is how we got the name Bridges Backpack Program! (BBP)

To participate in this program, the child's parent/guardian contacts the child's school to enroll.

In 2017, we decided we wanted to also assist Jr/Sr high age students so the Hi-Liner Pantry was established and provides food and essentials in the pantry at no cost to the students and they may also request a weekend backpack. Inquiries for pantry use are made through the offices, teachers or counselors who coordinate the distributions for about 30 students weekly. There are many heart-warming outcomes that have happened since this pantry has been available for student's needs.

In 2022, the BBP started a Summer Pantry program that is open once per week throughout the summer. This program is a grocery store where students and families can come and shop at no cost when school is not in session. This summer we fed an average of 41 children per week and provided over 6,100 lbs. of food to families in our area.

Hi-Liner Pantry Items Needed

Hi-Liner Pantry is again open for the school year. Donations can be brought to Faith, and we will deliver to the High School. Suggested items to donation are:

- Cans of soup
- Mac and Cheese
- Individual servings of microwavable meals
- Canned spaghetti, ravioli, meats
- Peanut butter, jelly, applesauce, canned fruit, Jello and pudding packets
- Cereal, crackers, chips, granola bars, fruit bars, cookies and popcorn

October Family Fun—Pumpkin BINGO!

It's time for our Annual Pumpkin BINGO!

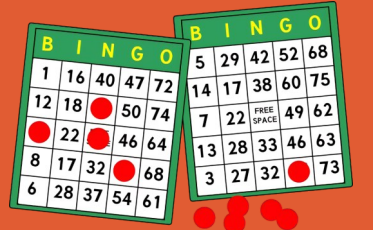
We will be playing BINGO on **Sunday, October 15th, 6-7:30pm!**



Come try to win some pumpkins to decorate your home with!

We will be having treats along with our BINGO too!

Thank you Kent & Patty Gronlie for supplying the pumpkins and Kids Club for picking them!



Hope to see you there!

Men's Group News

Faith Lutheran Men's Group is back on schedule with our regular monthly Breakfast meetings. We had a meeting on September 16 and decided to have our **Fall Pancake Brunch on Sunday, October 22nd.** That means that our October Breakfast meeting will be **Saturday, October 21st at 8am.**



We would like to invite any of the men in our congregation to come to either the Saturday Breakfast meeting or come help us at the Sunday Brunch or we would Love to see you at both. At the Saturday meeting we will be preparing the onions, peppers and potatoes and getting set up for the Sunday Pancake Brunch. If anyone has any questions regarding Men's Group or our Pancake Brunch, please feel free to contact any of our members or Julie in the Office.

May GOD Bless all of You!
Duane Larson



September Memorials



In memory of **John Brendmoen** given by Cheryl Foell (Undesignated); by Marlys Freadhoff (Undesignated); by Jack & Val Moritz (Undesignated); by Julie Moritz (Undesignated); by Brenda Stearns (Backpack Program, Youth).

In memory of **Jeff Differding** given by Gary & Diane Sommerfeld (Undesignated).

In memory of **James Henderson** given by Julie Moritz (Undesignated); by Gary & Diane Sommerfeld (Undesignated); by Al & Nancy Sorensen (General Fund).

In memory of **Bob Inman** given by Dean & Amy Pederson (General Fund).

In memory of **Robert Joerz** given by Jack & Val Moritz (Undesignated).

In memory of **Brady Larson** given by Cheryl Foell (Undesignated).

In memory of **Bob Maresh** given by Gary & Diane Sommerfeld (Undesignated).

In memory of **Myrna McGregor** given by Gary & Diane Sommerfeld (Undesignated).

In memory of **Carl Peter** given by Gene & Nancy Bjerke (Undesignated).

In memory of **Arleen Retzlaff** given by Mary Johnson (Youth); by Karen Nitschke (Youth).

In memory of **Mary Thompson** given by Dave & Carol Smith (Undesignated).

In memory of **Verna Thoreson** given by Karen Nitschke (Undesignated).

OCTOBER



BIRTHDAYS & ANNIVERSARIES

OCTOBER BIRTHDAYS:

1. Addalyn Auka, Brooklyn Auka, Dean Pederson, Lincoln Pilgrim, Blake Shape, Owen Tichy; 3. Bruce Moritz; 4. Jocey Haugen; 5. Zoey Bopp, Mary Rausch, Alexandria Rohde, Amy Tichy; 6. Christina Saylor; 7. Mike Nix; 8. Scott Tichy; 9. Cindy Hovland; 10. Brody Tompt; 11. Mavis Johnson; 13. Bob Hetler, Natalie Meyer; 14. LaVerne Bjornson, Lorraine Nitschke, Cheryl Peterson; 15. Tonya Samuelson; 17. Cindy Knudson; 18. Roger Mulvaney, Carol Oppegard; 19. Sara Gilbertson, Mark Lloyd, Nathan Rausch; 20. Haley Dalgliesh, Trierre Smith; 21. Martee Lunde; 22. Anna Metcalf, Julie Moritz; 23. Clint Meyer, Joey Saylor; 24. Brayden Klevgaard, Carol Moritz, Brenda Ventsch; 25. Elise Miller; 26. Dylan Lunn, Jan Oppegaard, Peyton Pederson; 28. Tara Nelson, Elizabeth Oppegaard, Olivia Pederson; 29. Melissa Pedersen; 30. Ashley Kellogg, Larry Pederson, Eleanor Stearns; 31. Gloria Glandt.

OCTOBER ANNIVERSARIES:

1. Mikkal & Wanda Auka; 3. Corey & Deb Neseth; 4. Al & Nancy Sorensen; 7. Gary & Diane Sommerfeld; 9. Lance & Elaine Jenison; 11. Tony & Tricia Mikkelsen; 17. Merl & Tiffany Greenley; 18. Brian & Georgia Welken; 19. Nick & Ashley Horner, Howard & Carol Oppegard; 20. Duane & Diana Larson, Shawn & Karla Ranisate; 21. Randy & Kay Bostrom; 28. Chuck & Deb Shape.

Influenza Flu Shot Clinic

City-County Health District will be administering Influenza high-dose and conventional Flu vaccinations on **Sunday, October 8, 10:30-11:30am**. This is available for ages 6 months thru adult. Ask them about RSV vaccines for adults 60 and older. You must bring your Medicare Part B (or other Medicare Advantage Plan), Medicaid, BCBS, Sanford Health, Preferred One, Medica (not Select Care) or Health Partners/Cigna cards with you and these entities can be billed.



Public Health
Prevent. Promote. Protect.
City-County Health District

October Service & Care

**needs chairs

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

*Thank you for serving!

September Attendance

September 3	73	110+online views
September 10	116	73+ online views
September 17	86	
September 24	83	76+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

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

Check Out the Library!

Looking for a story that warms your soul?

Seeking answers to life's great questions? Searching for a faith based movie?

The Faith Lutheran Church Library has all that and more! Stop by anytime the main doors are open and check out our wonderful collection of faith based materials. Resources can be "checked out" and returned at any time for no charge. The library is in the Fireside Room and Children's



books are also on the spinner rack in the nursery play area. Thank you to all who helped organize this beautiful library space! Tell your friends and family. Contact Julie in the office if you have any questions about our FLC Library.

Community Thanksgiving Baskets

The Community Thanksgiving Basket committee is excited to announce Faith Lutheran Church's participation in this mission for 2023! Baskets will be filled **Thursday, November 16** and pick-up/delivery will happen **Friday, November 17**. Please mark your calendars.

All interested volunteers please contact Julie in the office 845-4390. If you would like to give a monetary donation toward the Thanksgiving Basket project, you can send your donation to Faith Lutheran—PO Box 606, drop it off at the church or enclose it in one of our offering plate donations envelopes. Please indicate any donation to this mission as "Thanksgiving Baskets."



Thank you for your continued interest and support in this event. Thanksgiving Baskets are provided to local household in need via an application process. More volunteer and application information to come in the November newsletter. If you have questions before that time, reach out to Krista Johnson or Erin Metcalf.

Noisy Offering—Thanksgiving Boxes



We will be receiving a noisy offering on **Sunday, October 15**. The offering received will be going to the Thanksgiving Boxes. We will be giving out Thanksgiving Baskets of food to families in the community so they can enjoy a Thanksgiving meal. The kids will come around during the Children's Word with their pails to collect your loose change and dollar bills.

In September we received \$238.72 for the Access for All Program! Wow! Your generosity continues to make a difference in people's lives. Thank you!



WELCA News

The Faith WELCA Board met Wednesday, September 13. We are in full swing planning for the **Fall Festival** which will be held **Saturday, October 14, 10am-1pm**. We have been approved as a Thrivent Action Team and will be receiving \$250 for supplies. The youth of Faith will once again be offering various soups to go. We will be having a bake and craft sale. The quilters will be selling their beautiful quilts.



We are planning on a **lefse making day on Sunday, October 8 beginning at 1pm**. This has proved to be a fun day and we can always use people to roll, fry and bag so please consider coming. Batches of lefse dough will be provided but you are also welcome to bring your own batch. Taste testing is allowed ☺.

We are also asking all of you to showcase your talents with baked good and crafts. You will be receiving an email from Julie with the specifics as well as a price guide. We ask that you mark your items before you bring them. Thank you in advance for your participation. If you would like to help, please feel free to come early on October 14th, we'll find a job for you.

Our next meeting will be **Wednesday, October 11 at 3:30pm**.

Cheryl Foell, WELCA president



Ladies Craft Day—Saturday, October 7

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.

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.

OCTOBER TEAM MEETINGS



November Service & Care— Meets Sun, Oct 15 after worship & by emails texts/ phone
WELCA—Meets Wed, Oct 11 at 3:30pm

Council—Meets Tue, Oct 10 at 5:15pm

FLC Staff—Meets Wed, Oct 4 at 1:30pm

Men's Group—Meets Sat, Oct 21 at 8am

Mission Team—Meets Tue, Oct 3 at 5:30pm

Mission Team News

Throughout the months of October and November the Faith Lutheran Mission Team will continue to collect **new socks** of any size to be donated to APOC (Abused Persons Outreach Center) in Valley City. They will also be collecting **winter gloves/mittens and caps** during that time. The gloves/ mittens and caps will go to Jefferson and Washington Schools. A container is located under the table in the gathering area.

We would like to thank Sandy Brandvold for using her \$250 Thrivent action card to purchase supplies for the Hi-liner Pantry. The items purchased are most welcome to be received by the students.

The Mission Team will have the “Christmas Giving Tree” again this year. They will be collecting items for SMP Health St. Raphael and gifts for several local families. After their October meeting they will have more information. Remember our “Mission Christmas” Fund. Your loose change each week and dollar bills on the 1st & 3rd Sundays go into this fund.

The next meeting for the Mission Team will be **Tuesday, October 3 at 5:30pm**. If you would like to join the Mission Team, you are always welcome!



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.

Feeling Stretched as a Caregiver?

Powerful Tools for Caregivers is a free educational series designed to provide you with the tools you need to take care of yourself.



This program helps family caregivers reduce stress, improve self-confidence, improve communication, balance their lives, increase their ability to make tough decisions, and locate helpful resources.

The care giver class consists of six sessions held once a week. Three experienced Class Leaders conduct the series (many are experienced caregivers themselves, who have successfully applied the techniques they teach). Interactive lessons, discussions and brainstorming will help you take the “tools” you choose and put them into action for your life.

Participants will receive a book, *The Caregiver Helpbook*. The class is free, but there is a suggested donation of \$25 to cover the cost of the book.

For more information or to register, contact Susan Milender at Susan.milender@ndsu.edu or 845-8528. **Class size is limited and pre-registration is required.**

Virtual classes will be hosted on Zoom on Wednesday from 1-:2:30pm.