

FAITH ON THE RISE

Faith Lutheran Church ELCA . 309 Fourth Street Northeast . Valley City . North Dakota . 58072
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"Rejoice! The Lord is near." *Philippians 4:5*

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Office will be closed
 Monday, September 4 in
 observance of Labor Day.

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Sunday Worship Service—9:30am

Sunday School—10:45-11:45am

September 3rd we transition to our fall worship schedule. We invite you to join us Sunday mornings as we continue with our 9:30am Worship Service with Holy Communion. If you are unable

to attend worship in person, please join us as we livestream the services on our Facebook page: Faith Lutheran Church Valley City. We also upload the services on our YouTube channel: www.youtube.com/vcfaithlutheran after the worship service as well. Following worship at 10:30am enjoy a cup of coffee or juice and a treat while you visit with each other.

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

Sunday School runs 10:45-11:45am. The children will have a chapel time and also classroom time. We do have Sunday School registration forms on the table in the gathering area if you haven't registered your children yet for the 2023-2024 year. You may also register your children on our website: www.faithlutheranvc.org, click on Ministries then Education then you will see the Sunday School Registration Form in Green for you to click on and fill out the form.

We look forward to seeing all of your smiling faces as we begin the fall season!



Rally Sunday—September 10!

This is the first day of Sunday School!

Rally Sunday Celebration will be carnival themed, and will run from 10:45-11:45am. All families are welcome to come and stay for lunch after 11:45am that day! We are excited to welcome all the kids back for another great year!

Please save the date on your calendars!



Like is or not summer is over, and fall has begun. It is not only a change of season in nature, but also in the church. For many of you, who I will not mention by name, have been absent during the summer and now its time to come back and join the Faith crowd in church. To ease your transition back I thought I'd give you a few suggestions, instructions that might be helpful.

What to do when someone sits in your pew. We don't like to admit it, but we have our usual spots and when someone is new or has not been in church for a while, they might sit in your spot. If this happens don't panic but try these three easy suggestions;

1. *Smile and greet the Intruder.* Make solid eye contact with the person, shake their hand and if you don't recognize them, offer your name and ask theirs. Try to leave no impression that they've invaded your space.
2. *View the 'intrusion' as an opportunity.* Remember you don't 'own' the pew you just borrow it on Sundays. Take the opportunity to get out of your comfort zone and try someplace new. It won't kill you; you may even gain a new perspective.
3. *Make an extra effort to welcome the person who displaced you.* Consider inviting them out for brunch or some other act of kindness to eliminate the climate of hierarchy by placing you both on equal footing.

How to use the bulletin.

1. *Receive the bulletin from the greeter.* (self-explanatory)
2. *Review the bulletin in advance.* Take a few minutes to scan the bulletin to prepare for worship. Check to see if there are other worship resources needed. Often times there are liturgical responses required. A hint is a that your part is usually in bold print. Standing and sitting is also indicated by an *. It is also a good idea to review the announcements.

How to listen to the Sermon. Lutherans believe God's Word comes through the Sacraments and the preaching of Holy Scripture, not to mention getting something out of church.

1. *Review active listening skills.* Even though you don't necessarily get to speak during the sermon, it is a conversation. Make mental notes as you listen. Take mental notes of where and why your emotions react.
2. *Take notes.* This will promote active listening and help with reflection later. If the confirmation kids are doing it, you can too!
3. *Avoid slouching.* Sit upright with your feet planted on the ground and your palms on your thighs. Beware of crossing your arms or leaning into your neighbor as these things encourage drowsiness.

Hopefully these suggestions can help ease your anxiety of transitioning back into the habit of worship. Remember worship is not about you but about being in the presence of God. Welcome back and let us celebrate together the beginning of a new season

Blessed be the name,
Pastor Jamie

Youth News

Important Info for 10th Graders being Confirmed!

- Banquet for Confirmands will be on Sunday, October 22 at Faith
- Confirmation will be on Sunday, October 29 at Faith

Here are some important dates for the Confirmands:

- Wednesday, September 27**—meet with Pastor Jamie at Faith at 6pm
- Wednesday, October 4**—meet with Nancy Bjerke to go over Banner ideas at 6pm
- Wednesday, October 11**—make the Banner at 6pm



Confirmation Information

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

We will be having a Parent and Student Meeting on Wednesday, September 13th at 6:30pm at Faith to talk about the year.

Confirmation will resume for the students on Wednesday, September 20th. **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!



Jr High/Sr High Youth Group



Junior High Youth Group (grades 7-9) on Friday, September 29th we will head to Wendi's parents' cabin on Lake Ashtabula for a bonfire and outdoor games. We will leave from Faith at 6pm and be back to Faith by 9:30pm. Watch your emails for more info soon!

Senior High Youth Group (grades 10-12) on Saturday, September 30th we will head to Wendi's parents' cabin on Lake Ashtabula for a bonfire and outdoor movie/games. We will leave from Faith at 7pm and be back to Faith by 11pm.

Castaway Club Retreat!

Wendi will be taking a group of 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 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! We are looking for one more male chaperone. Please contact Wendi if you are interested in coming along on this fun trip!





Sunday School

Sunday School will resume on Sunday, September 10th! We welcome any child who is 4 years old or close to turning 4, up to kids who are going to be 6th graders to come on Sunday mornings to Sunday School!

Sunday School will run from 10:45am-11:45am. You should have received an email to register your child. The form is also on our website: www.faithlutheranvc.org

Thank you to Brenda Rohde, Angela Van Bruggen, Amanda Pilgrim, Ashley Horner, Jessica Johnson, Kylie Van Bruggen, Abby Wilmes, and Alyssa Wilmes for volunteering their time to teach our kids about Jesus!



Early Dismissal Day

On Wednesday, September 20th there is an Early Dismissal Day from 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.

We will play games and have a snack at Faith before we head over to the Wellness Center at 3pm for fun and swimming! Please watch your emails for more information soon!

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 a letter in the mail to sign up your child! Please sign up your child by Friday, September 1st, 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 6th!!

- Wednesday, September 6 will be at Faith
- Wednesday, September 13 will be at Faith
- Wednesday, September 20 EARLY DISMISSAL DAY!
- Wednesday, September 27 service project day



New Orleans Youth Trip Summer of 2024

The National Youth Gathering is in New Orleans July 13-22, 2024! Youth currently in 8th grade to 12th grade are encouraged to attend. We will be having an informational meeting about the trip on Wednesday, September 13th at 6pm here at Faith for any student who is interested in coming along! There must be a parent that comes to the meeting also! Please watch your emails for more info soon!

Call Committee Update

As summer is now winding down and we are getting into the swing of our school year routines, I'd like to get an update from the call committee on where we are in the call process. While we've had candidates we've interviewed in the past, this summer we continue this process and received profiles from potential candidates, it's still not our time. As we, the call committee, have been going through this process, we continue to reflect on God's timing. While it is a surprise to everyone that there isn't a ton of movement among pastors, we all rely on the same faith and know He will provide us the right opportunity, at the right time.



We appreciate your patience and support as we continue to lead our congregation through this process. Any questions, please let one of us know!

Ecclesiastes 3:1

"which He will bring about at the proper time—He who is the blessed and only Sovereign, the King of kings and Lord of lords,"

The Call Committee,

Brianne Foell, Tyler Van Bruggen, Elise Miller, Scott Johnson, Jenna Mairs, Tim Ost

A Message from Our Council President

I hope everyone had a great summer! Backpacks were blessed a couple weeks ago. School is back in full swing which means Rally Sunday is fast approaching on Sunday, September 10th. I look forward to seeing many of you there.

Please don't forget to fill out and turn in your Time and Talents sheets and turn them into the office. Extra Time and Talent sheets are located on the table in the gathering area.

God Bless,
Justin Foell, FLC Council President



13th 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 Access for All Program. We couldn't hold this yearly 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 & Youth for running the Cake Walk and those who brought items for the Cake Walk. It's a hit for all ages! Thank you to the Evangelism Team—Brenda Klein, Tonya Samuelson, Erin Metcalf, and Gina Thornton and their families for leading this event each year!

Welcome Back to the School Year Grind Parents!

Faith Lutheran would like to introduce a BRAND NEW group to provide support and connections for parents of Youth to *fill your cup!* We are P.O.S.S.Y. (Parents of Sunday School *Youth—emphasis on the youth*). Let me tell you a little more about this group!

WHO: We are a parent-led group that includes all adults with children during the child-rearing age! If you have a brand new baby, to teenagers in high school, we all need a little support, a way to connect and fill our cups. What better place to get this than a place faith.

Let's make this clear! This is not another just mom's group in the church. This is about couples, both husband and wife. When moms are active in the church, from a kid's point of view, it's seen as a *mom's thing*. When we see dad active as well, kids see that differently and it makes a little different impact in their world. We would love to have couples involved in POSSY with the little of organizing there is, but if it's just you as an individual, we'd love to have you be part of this all-inclusive parent group too!

So if you are interested in helping out with our POSSY group, please reach out to Julie at office@faithlutheranvc.org or call the church at 701-845-4390.

WHAT: While our main mission is to create connection and support among families of youth (0-18yo) in our faith community, we also have discussed other ways to provide a mission within our church community. We don't want this to become "another thing" you have to do, instead, we want to provide a place to connect, and fill you cup!

That being said, we've discussed service options we can do around the church to support our church community and building:

- Update/organize the nursery
- Do a little landscaping around te building
- Do more with the busy bags for kids during church
- Support our confirmation kids/parents—projects they need support with
- Support for our Sunday School—ways to support with activities and such

We also would like to hear from you about ways to support parents during church.

During POSSY, we could discuss the needs of our families like:

- How can we make church service either more kid-friendly or give them a place to go that is supervised
- Discuss how to provide a private nursing area for mom and baby
- Etc.

We know, that sometimes when the kids are busy for 45 minutes after church, we use this time to maybe grocery shop, start lunch, or run a few other errands. We have a lot of room

Faith Lutheran Fall Cleaning Day & Lunch—Sunday, September 24

Calling all cleaning volunteers! Please wear your cleaning clothes to church that day as we will be doing some fall cleaning after a SHORT church service. The council will be serving lunch when we are done with our projects. There will be windows to wash inside and out, walls to wipe down, door frames to dust off, and maybe even some touchup painting. Please bring a ladder if you have one. Sandy and Mark will have lists of items and we are asking for your help to complete them.

Please come and help. The more volunteers we have the faster we get done and can share a meal and fellowship together. We hope to start cleaning around 10am and eat no later than 12 noon.



August Transitions in Our Parish

BAPTISMS: We welcomed into the family of God **Owen James Houdek**, born on May 31, 2022 and baptized August 27, 2023. His parents are Thomas & Tori Houdek.

We welcomed into the family of God **Frankie Sue Ashline**, born September 13, 2022 and baptized August 30, 2023. Her parents are Jayden Hovland and Jakob Ashline.

MARRIAGES: Congratulations to **Austin & Crystal (Casanova) Tompt** on their marriage. They were married Saturday, August 27, 2023 with Pastor Jamie Desai officiating.

DEATHS: Our sympathies to the family & friends of **Brady Larson**. Brady died Wednesday, August 16, 2023. His funeral was held Saturday, August 26 at the ND Winter Show building. Our sympathies to the family & friends of **James Henderson**. James died Thursday, August 17, 2023 while visiting his family in New Orleans. His Celebration of Life will be in New Orleans on Friday, September 1.

August Memorials



In memory of **James Henderson** given by Illa Glandt (Undesignated).

In memory of **Brady Larson** given by Junette Christianson (Youth); by Illa Glandt (Undesignated); by Mary Johnson (General Fund); by Bruce & Julie Moritz (Undesignated); by Jack & Val Moritz (Undesignated); by Roger & Sandy Mulvaney (Undesignated); by Al & Nancy Sorensen (Undesignated).

In memory of **Richard Moritz** given by Jerry & Carol Moritz (Backpack Program).

In memory of **Arleen Retzlaff** given by Jack & Val Moritz (Undesignated); by Bruce & Julie Moritz (Undesignated); by Joan Noeske (Undesignated); by Al & Nancy Sorensen (Undesignated).

In memory of **Mary Thompson** given by Illa Glandt (Undesignated).

In memory of **Verna Thoreson** given by Illa Glandt (Undesignated).

SEPTEMBER TEAM MEETINGS

Council—Meets **Tue, Sept 12 at 5:15pm**

FLC Staff—Meets **Wed, Sept 6 at 1:30pm & Wed, Sept 20 at 1:30pm**

Men's Group—Meets **Sat, Sept 16 at 8am**

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

October Service & Care— Meets **Sun, Sept 15** after worship & by emails texts/ phone

WELCA—Meets **Wed, Sept 13 at 3:30pm**

SEPTEMBER BIRTHDAYS:

1. Trent Moritz, Chloe Sayler; 2. Lisa Limesand; Haley Sayler, Brian Welken; 3. Erika Dalgliesh; 4. Corbin Germann, Nicole Larson; 5. Scott Beilke, Scott Johnson, Linda Moser, Mike Schmidt II; 6. Patty Myers, Ridge Rischmiller, Taylor Storhoff; 7. Emery Wiebe; 9. Cooper Bopp, Rhonda Friestad, Al Sorensen; 10. Ayden Ness, Dave Pedersen; 11. Russ Hilborn; 12. Lois Brandvold; 13. Frankie Ashline, Reagan Holm, Tyler Van Bruggen, Vicki Z. Metcalf; 14. Jess Ranisate; 16. Kay Bostrom; 17. Justin Foell, Jacee Klein, Jenna Mairs; 19. Loree Morehouse; 20. Deb Beilke, Brandon Erickson, Jordy Stearns, Austyn Thornton; 21. Alex Jenrich, Tyson Jenrich; 23. Jessica Johnson, Steve Nelson, Emma Willey; 26. Owen Struble; 27. Miranda Erickson, Tifani Komrosky; 28. Patty Altringer, Shane Germann; 29. Amelia Wiebe; 30. Carson McGough, Ashley Haugen.

SEPTEMBER ANNIVERSARIES:

1. John & Mary Stearns; 4. Rick & Audrey Bredeson; 5. Danny & Mikayla Gustafson, Brett & Em Stearns; 6. Greg & Kellie Schulz; 9. Matt & Rachel Kilmon; 12. Josh & Jessica Kaiser; 13. Wayne & Leah Thoreson; 16. Leighton & Dianne Smith; 17. Paul & Doreen Vangerud; 21. Jill & Kermit Pederson; 22. Mark & Jill Foss, Tom & Ashley Kellogg; 23. Mike & Vicki Z. Metcalf; 26. Ralph & JoAnn Hooper; 27. Joe & Reneé Martin, Brian & Brook Yanish.

Noisy Offering—Access for All

We will be receiving a noisy offering on **Sunday, September 17**. The offering received will be going to the Access for All program. This program provides free services for students in need of professional clinical counseling. The kids will come around during the Children’s Message with their pails to collect your loose change and dollar bills.



In August we received \$149.50 for the Bridges Backpack Program! Your generosity continues to make a difference in people’s lives. Thank you!

September Service & Care

****Jack & Val Moritz**
**** Don & Kathy Schlotman**
 Bud & Verna Anderson
 Paulette Everson
 Gloriann Gaarder
 Paul & Nancy Hilborn
 Cindy Knudson
 Kaila Knudson
 Margie Lima
 Steve & Tara Nelson
 Lorraine Nitschke
 Sandi Pollock
 Connie Ronholm
 Brian & Brooke Yanish
 *Thank you for serving!

August Attendance

August 6	54	56+online views
August 13	74	93+ online views
August 20	76	122+online views
August 27	110	85+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

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

Mission Christmas Fund

This fund is used to purchase Gift Cards from local businesses for those within our congregation who could use them due to health issues or other reasons. Please consider giving to this fund.

for growth and a direction we can take according to our needs for this group. we’ve discussed different activities for parents such as :

- Meal prep a meal for at least one night a week
- Get recipe ideas/swap
- Grocery shop together
- Bring in others to support us with parenting strategies, couples activities, finance lessons, etc.

As you can see, the sky is the limit! We want to provide this group with support we are looking for! So while we have so many options and things we can do, we are starting out simple with just connecting. We will be sending out surveys, and have questionnaires and such to get your feedback *often!*

WHEN: Sunday School Hour. While you are either waiting around during the Sunday School hour or dropping your kids off, join us in the fellowship hall to get a special coffee drink (cold, hot, flavored... so many possibilities!) There are no big obligations! Instead fill your cup up for the week with connection, a take-away verse, and a little service project (only if you are interested) to support our church.

WHERE: Fellowship hall during Sunday School Hour (10:45-11:30am)

WHY: Connect withing the Faith Community with other parents to fill your cup with a no-obligation group and resource to support a busy household while filling your cup with little service projects to support our church.

KICK-OFF: Stop by our table at Rally Sunday for an exciting beverage and more information about POSSY! **I’d like to also share with you about our kick-off for the POSSY group on Friday, September 22 at the Eagles, starting at 5:30pm.**
More information about this coming soon!

If you know of a family (parents) who are looking for a place of faith to connect with other parents, get support, have a resource, and fill your cup with the little service projects we do for our church, please invite them! We’d love to build this strong community of families within our Faith community.

KEEP A LOOK OUT FOR MORE INFORMATION SOON ☺30

Brianne Foell





WELCA News

The WELCA Board met Wednesday, August 16. We set **Saturday, October 14** as the date for the next **Fall Festival**. **Sunday, October 8th** will be our **annual lefse making date**.

Please mark the date on your calendars and be thinking about helping, attending, or participating with baked goods or crafts. Our youth will be selling 'soup to go' again this year.



The dishes that did not sell at our rummage sale were taken to The Mercantile restaurant in Hannaford.

Upcoming dates to keep in mind:

September 19-21—12th Triennial Convention in Phoenix, AZ; Gathering **September 21-24 Saturday, September 30**—Eastern ND Synodical Women's Organization Convention, Messiah Lutheran Church, Fargo, ND. If anyone would like to attend, please contact Cheryl, 840-1368. Rev Dim Adams is the Keynote speaker and Rev. Lexi Steinie is the presiding pastor.

October 27-28—Fresh Grounded Faith, Hope Lutheran South, Fargo, ND. Jennifer Rothschild, speaker, author and Bible Study Teacher will be the keynote speaker. Special guests are Margaret Feinber, author, and Michael O'Brien, recording artist and worship leader. Tickets are available at FreshGroundedFaith.com or 417-888-2067.

Our next meeting will be **Wednesday, September 13 at 3:30pm.**

Cheryl Foell, WELCA president

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.



Valley City Community Blood Drive



Blood Donors Needed! **Thursday, September 7, 12-6pm** a Blood Drive will be held at Americinn by Wyndham, 280 Wintershow Road SW. This is sponsored by St. Catherine of Alexandria Catholic Daughters. Please contact Vitalant at 877-258-4825 or go to donors.vitalant.org and search Sponsor Code: valleycitynd to schedule an appointment. You may also call Mary at 840-2878 or Mary Ann at 845-2943 to schedule an appointment.

Because of you, life doesn't stop.

Mission Team Project—School Supplies Collection

Faith Lutheran Mission Team would like to thank those who donated school supplies and gave monetary gifts to our school supplies drive! School supplies were donated to Jefferson and Washington Elementary Schools. The supplies are used to help students needing them during the school year. With the help of a \$250 Thrivent Action received by Kay Bostrom the mission team was able to purchase additional supplies. Thank you Kay!

Throughout the months of September, October and November the Mission Team will be collecting **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 will be by the table in the gathering area.

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

Faith Mission Team



Men's Group News

'Take me out to the ballgame, Take me out with the crowd.' Faith Lutheran Men's group attended our annual RedHawks Baseball Game on Wednesday evening, August 16, 2023. Although the game or the score wasn't very favorable for the home town team, it was a lovely evening and much good fellowship was shared by the members who were able to attend. After the last 2 years where the RedHawks won quite easily, this year they lost 10-1. Maybe next year we can get them back on the winning track?

Now that summer is over (Boo Hoo), we will be back to our normal monthly Saturday morning Breakfast meetings. Our September Breakfast meeting will be held on **Saturday, September 16, at 8am.** This will be an informal get-together so we would like to invite all of the men from Faith Lutheran to join us for a fun time where we enjoy good food and great Fellowship! Any questions regarding Men's Group, contact any of our members or let Julie in the office know and we will tell you more.

May GOD Bless all of you and Please come be a part of the Group!

Duane Larson

