



Faith News

Volume 26, Issue 9

October 2023

Faith Lutheran Church

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It is the mission of Faith Lutheran Church:

*To gather prayerfully as the Body of Christ;
To grow in faith, love, and service;
To go into the world joyfully as disciples.*

Sunday Worship Schedule

Sunday School - 9:00
Worship - 10:00
Fellowship - 11:00

Holy Communion on the first and third weeks of the month.



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From our Pastor - Pr. Devlyn Brooks

Sunday, Sept. 24, 2023, should go down in the history of Faith Lutheran Church as one of those milestone moments that members look back on years from now and say, "Wow, what a special day for our church that was!"

I hope that you feel the same.

For those who were unable to join us, first in the morning at worship, we had a 90-minute service, of which most of the time was filled with Faith members sharing what is on their hearts about what our church means to them, and also their thoughts about our future.

That conversation still gives me chills more than 24 hours later! ... And it definitely will go down as one of the most memorable communions I have had the good fortune of presiding over, most certainly! The feeling in the church after that conversation was pure Christ-like love!

And then in the evening, our church played host to about 50 people from all over our synod's Conference 5. Pastors and lay leaders -- from churches big and small, close and far away in our conference -- came to join us for food, fun and fellowship during this conference's stop on the synod team's annual "Road Trip."

Each year, the synod staff hosts one "Road Trip" stop per conference all around our synod. And we were chosen some months ago to host our conference's stop this year. During Sunday's event, we hosted a picnic style dinner for all, Bishop Bill Tesch led us in a Bible study on the stewardship of time, and then the synod staff provided a short presentation about the state of the synod and the many programs and initiatives underway throughout the synod.

After spending about 10 hours at our church on Sunday, I left a little overwhelmed from all of the emotional energy that was poured out. But on the drive home, I realized it was a good kind of tired. The kind of tired after an amazing day that you want to capture in your memories forever!

Sunday was the kind of day in which our church was busy from morning until night, and what a better testimony to the importance of the conversation that took place among our Faith family that morning!

So now what?

I can imagine some of you thinking, "Sure pastor, Sunday was a good day, a productive day. A day to celebrate that so many from around our conference came to see our beautiful church. And the morning conversation during worship was a good start to discussing what our future is. ... But now what?"

Right? It's a natural question.

Well, I don't think I have to tell anybody that Sunday's congregational conversation was only a start. From here, it's going to take hard work and commitment to figure out what Faith Lutheran's next chapter is.

I would say that in the immediate future three things need to happen:

October Food Pantry Item

Thanksgiving Items



- First, as members who love this church, you all need to keep this conversation going. Sunday wasn't a deciding point; it was a discerning point. And that discernment will continue. So, please keep talking about this topic -- what is our future? -- with your fellow members, and also with your current church council. As leaders of the church, it is imperative that you continue to keep them informed about your thoughts, wishes, dreams and even fears. While the council is elected to represent the Faith body at large, they also depend on you for vital feedback.
- Second, the council and I will revisit Sunday morning's conversation at the October council meeting and discuss next steps. Again, I don't think any next steps are abundantly clear, but I do believe the council at least has some of your feedback to add to the continuing conversation. And that will be very helpful.
- Third, pray. We are a people who believe in the power of prayer. I think it's imperative that we continue to invite God into this conversation with us, and ask God what our future should hold. I ask that you pray for the council as they begin this work, and I ask that you pray that I continue to lead in faithful ways. Prayer is everyone's job, and a very important one!

In my best judgment, that is what I believe happens next for our church. And then after we've discussed this vital topic again at the next council meeting, I pray that the Holy Spirit will continue to lead our church down the path of discernment.

Faith Family ... please remember that we did holy work on Sunday morning. That wasn't just talk. That was a dedicated and loving Faith Family coming together to express intimate thoughts. That's not easy work, I am so proud of our church for this!

And I want to hold up that it is true that we are still in an envious position to many churches. So, let's remember this is a time to live out of joy and hope and not out of fear. Let's trust that God will help us transition to the next chapter, whatever it is!

Blessings to you this October Faith Family!

Faith Women Schedule

Sunday, October 15—Meeting after worship

Tuesday, October 31—Hosting Halloween Trunk or Treat

Monday and Tuesday, October 16, 17—Quilting

Sunday, November 12—Faith Women will lead service. We will take a Thankoffering that supports the ongoing ministries of the churchwide women's organization. Sue McCracken will bring us a message of "Gentle Nudges". The men's group will serve a dinner after worship and our **Annual Fall Auction** will start at 1:00pm. That will be a fun day! Always exciting to see what crafts, quilts, and goodies are prepared for auction! Proceeds benefit local charities.

October Ushers

Kevin Olthoff

Travis Smeby

Jason Hendrickson



Come to the...

Faith Lutheran Church Auction

This annual event offers homemade crafts, quilts, baked and canned goods for auction. Proceeds benefit many local organizations.

Where: Faith Lutheran Church
Wolverton, MN

When: Sunday, November 12 at
1:00 PM



October Birthdays

- 1 Ethan Tucker
- 2 MaryAnn Olthoff
- 2 Ty Kratzer
- 7 Cass Edwards
- 8 Behr Nord
- 15 LeRoy Turner
- 21 Wayne Krump
- 22 Quinn Affield
- 22 Christie Erickson
- 25 Alisha Donelly

October Anniversaries

- 14 Dennis & Kris Bohner
- 25 Andrew & Stacey Rohan
- 26 Matthew & Melanie Johnson
- 28 Lowell & Deanna Picotte

Special Event: Brain Health and Resilience by Liz Cox
 Wednesday, October 18th at 6:30 at Comstock Lutheran
 Refreshments served following event.

The workshop intersects topics of the impact of stress on brain mental health/brain health and cultivating resilience. Using an evidence-informed program, along with real-world and concrete examples, we'll demonstrate how caring connections serve as a primary buffer in the negative effects of life's challenges. We'll ultimately build skills that promote the building of more resilient, compassionate, trauma-informed, and supportive individuals, families, businesses, faith communities, and neighborhoods. This event is for the entire Comstock-Hoff Parish and Faith Lutheran in Wolverton. It is highly recommended for youth grades 6-12th and their parents and all other interested adults, members, and parents.

For more than 20 years Liz has led organizations and initiatives addressing wellbeing by working collaboratively across sectors of businesses, schools, government agencies, legislators, and faith communities, Liz has provided training on resilience to professionals and community members across the country.

Growing up in Fargo, daughter of Irv and Lynn Rustad of Comstock Lutheran, Liz has lived in West Des Moines Iowa since 1996. She is active in her community, serving on her school board. She's also been involved in Boy Scouts, the West Des Moines Chamber of Commerce, Rotary International, and other local non-profit agencies serving kids and families. Liz graduated from the University of North Dakota, majoring in Psychology, and later, earned her MBA from the University of Iowa Tippie Business School. Our community is blessed to have Liz come and speak to us. All are welcome.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

CONFIRMATION CLASS

Confirmation will begin for grades 7-9 with a parent and student meeting on October 4. Classes will begin on October 11 at 6:30.

MEETINGS

The church council will meet Wednesday, October 4 at 7:00.

The Education committee will meet Wednesday, October 18 at 6:30.

Faith Women will meet Sunday, October 15 after worship.



On Tuesday, October 31 Faith Lutheran’s WELCA is hosting a *trunk or treat* event outside of Faith Lutheran Church. This provides a safe environment for kids to trick or treat. Join in the fun by decorating your trunk and hand out treats to the kids. This is a great way to be church outside of the church walls and into our community. Join the fun!



Order a Poinsettia—

to beautify our church this Christmas Season!

6 inch pot - \$8.50 each 8 inch pot - \$17.00

Orders must be placed no later than October 29, 2023

The plants will be delivered directly to the church.

*On the order blank below, please indicate the number of poinsettias you wish, and if they are being given in honor or memory of a specific individual. **There will be an insert in the Christmas Eve bulletin with a list of those so honored.***

Attach payment for the plants to this form and drop in the offering plate, or bring to the church office. Orders can also be made by leaving a message at 995-2556 or email faith@wlc-mail.net. Plants can be picked up after the Worship service on Christmas Eve. Mail checks to PO Box 175 Wolverton, MN 56594.

Given by: _____

In Honor of: _____

In Memory of: _____

Number of 6 inch pots ordered: _____ * \$8.50 = _____

Number of 8 inch pots ordered: _____ * \$17.00 = _____

Total Due: _____

FLC Council Minutes

Faith Lutheran Church Council
Meeting Minutes
September 13, 2023 (7:00)

Prayer: Pr Devlyn Brooks

Opening Devotions: Tina Aigner

Members present: Wayne (Dike) Krump, Kylie Hendrickson, Keith Kragerud, Lisa Miller, Tina Aigner, Greg Freitag, Duane Nelson

Members absent: Sara Aigner, Jessica Nelson

Other Present: Pr. Devlyn Brooks

October Devotions: Keith Kragerud

Food pantry Item (October): Thanksgiving Items

Communion Assistants:

Sunday September 24 – Kylie Hendrickson
Sunday October 1 – Tina Aigner

Secretary Report: Approved

Treasury Report: Approved

Pastor Report: Pr Devlyn will be at a Fall Theological retreat Sunday – Tuesday. Sunday September 24 during service there will be a discussion on revitalization.

The Synod Road Trip will be at Faith Lutheran Church on Sunday September 24, starting with meal at 5:15. Confirmation classes will begin October 11, parents meeting will be October 6.

Committee Reports & Assignments:

Faith Women – Meeting in October & Quilting will begin in October

Property & Maintenance – mini split AC will need to be serviced in the spring

Old Business: Peterson Memorial – Exterior cross: Cross will get mounted then Cook will do the electrical, Video & Sound: tabled until more relevant. Motion was made and passed to bring proposed amendment changes to congressional meeting. Israel Tour we be Late February into March. Synod Road Trip on September 24th, Dike will bring grill Lisa will ask Faith Women to bring bars or desserts.

New Business: Vitalization Sunday – Sunday September 24, Lisa will send postcard reminders.

Adjourn

Lord's Prayer

Kylie Hendrickson, Acting Secretary

Prayer Requests

Jane Buchholz—Sheyenne Crossing West Fargo
Louie Gruenberg—River Pointe Moorhead
Arlene Nelson—Eventide Senior Living Moorhead
Keith Nelson—at home in Wolverton
Alice Poppel - Farmstead Care Moorhead

Please keep these people in your prayers. Drop them a note or give them a call. Please let Pr. Devlyn know of any other prayer concerns.

FAITH LUTHERAN CHURCH
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WOLVERTON, MN 56594-0175

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PO Box 175
Wolverton, MN 56594

Worship Schedule

9:00 Sunday School 10:00 Worship

11:00 Fellowship

Sunday, October 1— Pr. Devlyn Brooks—communion

Sunday, October 8—Sunday School Takeover

Sunday, October 15— Pr. Devlyn Brooks—communion

Faith Women meet after worship

Sunday, October 22—Guest Minister Pr. Steve Trandem

Sunday, October 29—Pr. Devlyn Brooks—Reformation Sunday

Halloween Trunk or Treat—Tuesday, October 31

Annual Church Auction is approaching fast...

Sunday, November 12 at 1PM