



Faith Lutheran Church
Evangelical Lutheran Church in America
God's work. Our hands.

**FAITH'S
FOUNDATIONS**

November 2020

Working to spread the Gospel here and throughout the world.

6995 US 45 S · P.O. Box 436 · Three Lakes, WI 54562 · 715-546-2770
<http://faithlutheran-threelakes.org> · <https://facebook.com/faith3lakes> · office6995@gmail.com
Office Hours: Tuesday thru Thursday 9:00 am to 12:00 pm

NOTE FROM PASTOR JOHN

It is the month of November and what comes to your mind? Some folks look forward to deer hunting. I've never hunted for anything in my life except for my glasses when I have misplaced them. In my days in the U.P. one of the congregations scheduled and Annual Hunter's Dinner the night before deer hunting opened. Over the years I had various jobs with this meal-preparation. One year I was in charge of the stuffing-the menu included turkey of course. A lady came in the kitchen wondering who made the stuffing. I thought 'what did I do wrong now? But no she complemented me saying it was the best turkey stuffing she ever ate. I smiled and thanked her but I did not have the heart to say the stuffing was actually from a box, Stove Top to be exact. The Hunter's Dinner was always well attended and the congregation's top fund-raiser.

For the church there are two important festivals in November; one at the beginning and one near the end of the month. November 1st in All Saints

Day and for 2020 it is a Sunday. On this day we remember our loved ones who have died. It is customary to name members of the congregation who have died in the past year. We remember such dear saints as Al Johnson, Joyce Koski, and Martha Andeen. In past years a Memorial table was set up in the sanctuary. If you wished you were invited to bring photos of loved ones. You were also invited to light a candle in their memory. Unfortunately due to Covid-19 restrictions for worship there will be no Memorial table set up this year. But be assured that the Paschal (Easter) candle will be lighted. This symbol is lighted Easter Sunday and throughout the Easter church year season (seven Sundays). It is a symbol of victory, of Jesus' victory over the powers of sin and death. It reminds us that Jesus is the light of the world, our light to guide us through any darkness.

The Easter Candle is burning brightly for every baptism for in this precious Sacrament we are baptized into Jesus Christ, into his death and

resurrection. May we celebrate baptism daily in some form. Baptized into Jesus means our Savior has the final word each day. Sins are not to define us since the forgiveness of Jesus means we are not to live with guilt but with the comfort of God's saving grace. We also join with Jesus in his resurrection meaning newness of life. Resurrection promises daily renewal since with Jesus the pressures and problems of this world do not corral us into hopelessness. Jesus is with us and he lives up to the meaning of his name, one who saves, and one who delivers. May we trust Jesus daily to restore, replenish, and renew faith, hope, and love in our lives.

Because of the Corona virus many think this year has been completely ruined. Just think of the many cancellations and restrictions. But most of all we cannot escape the tragedy of so many who have died. Every news cast gives us the number of fellow Americans who have died from the virus. Not only have so many Americans died, so many throughout the world have lost their lives, it is a pandemic after all. But I like to think that behind every number is a human being, a person who loved and was loved. There have been so many precious human beings who have walked through the dark valley of the shadow of death. The whole world is awash in tears as loved ones are experiencing the heaviness of grief. There is no minimizing the pain of the nation and the pain of the world. I have felt that the Scripture lessons for the Sundays of this year have been especially meaningful, speaking to the hearts of all who will listen. For those walking the dark valley of death the Word of God tells us that God is with us so we fear no evil. God will not abandon his children in the darkest of valleys. The gospels remind us that Jesus came to this earth as God in the flesh to bear all our grief. So may we pray from the heart, sometimes our prayers are without words, but that is okay since we have the promise of the Holy Spirit who

prays for us. Through prayer we are promised the peace of God which surpasses all understanding. That is a good way to describe it. We may like a peace of no problems or worries, but how would that be ever possible since we are human beings. But the peace of Jesus is his presence to guard our hearts and minds so we are not overcome by worry and fear. The Spirit of Jesus, his presence reminds us whose we are, the beloved children of God.

At the end of the month is the wonderful Day of Thanksgiving. Years ago I was helping out with a mid-week Children's ministry at the church. It was near Thanksgiving and the kids were working on an art project that was to display what they were thankful for. The person in charge asked what the kids were thankful for and many hands were raised with the answer "Jesus"—this was a church after all. The teacher was somewhat annoyed. She said it was nice they were thankful for Jesus, but what about some other things important to them for their daily lives. I agreed and thought of Luther's explanation to the 4th Petition of the Lord's Prayer, "Give us today our daily bread" and Luther listed all kinds of life's necessities under that theme. But then I thought the kids were right. Thankfully they were thankful for Jesus. Thank you Jesus for forgiving my sins. Thank you Jesus for saving my soul. Thank you Jesus for putting up with me and loving me unconditionally. Thank you Jesus for eternal life knowing eternal life begins now trusting you to teach me compassion for a wounded world.

As I was writing this a visitor came. He or she came scratching at the window. This visitor was a beautiful black squirrel. We stared at each other momentarily before the squirrel scurried away. (Maybe he or she came to thank me for all the sunflower seeds I put on the ground). I smiled and was thankful I live in an area where there are simple pleasures with natural wonders. I stop sometimes and soak in the sound of the

birds...the loons, the chickadees, eagles, woodpeckers and others. But then I thought of children who live in city slums and sub-standard housing. Instead of a curious squirrel at the window, a rat runs across the room. Instead of the sound of birds, they hear the sounds of sirens. Just how can I be thankful just for my blessings while not caring about the poor and oppressed?

Bryan Stevenson, head of the Equal Justice Initiative, was interviewed on a PBS program and told a story of his boyhood. He was going inside the church with his mother on a Sunday morning. As they approached the steps he noticed a boy about his age, about 8 or 9 years old. He was new. Bryan's mother told him to make an acquaintance. When the new boy tried to talk he stuttered. Bryan's response was to laugh. Bryan's mother saw this encounter and was not pleased. With motherly justice she told her son to go up to the new boy and apologize. And not only that, you give him a big hug. AND

not only that you tell him you love him. Bryan was about to learn an important lesson for both life and faith. Now he would not mind too much to say "I'm sorry", but to hug the kid and then say 'I love you.'? But mother was watching and there dare not be any hesitation. Bryan was obedient and said he was sorry, and then came the awkward hug and more than awkward words of love. But after all of that, the new boy returned the hug, and said perfectly, without a stutter, "I love you." I think this story shows that people are released from anxiety when they are loved. Thanksgiving is a national holiday, and may it challenge us nationally. Have you seen those yard signs, "Hate Has No Place or Room Here." Thank you Jesus for coming into my heart to show the way of love. Help us as a nation to put away prejudice, mockery, racism, or any type hatred. Help us to truly show we are a thankful people by living the courageous way, the healing way of love.

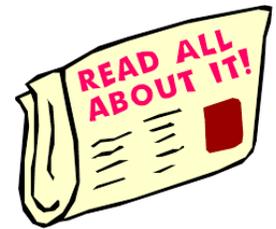


Synod-Wide Online Worship

Mark your calendars and join us for a special Reformation worship on Sunday, October 25! The service will be pre-recorded and available prior to that weekend. Pastors/congregations are invited to use the service in its entirety or the sermon will be available separately.

ANNOUNCEMENT!

SYNOD ASSEMBLY 2021 WILL BE ONLINE



On September 11, the Synod Council passed a motion to begin plans for an online assembly in May of 2021. Their reasons for doing so include the following:

- The timeline for the availability of a vaccine remains unclear. Large gatherings may still not be possible or advisable.
- Congregations are planning their budgets for 2021.
- Congregations can appoint/recruit voting members who will have time to prepare to be online participants.
- The planning team has time to make arrangements. Energy will be spent putting together a good online assembly rather than scrambling in a last-minute shift.
- Opportunities for in-person gatherings may be more possible in the Fall of 2021 for our Conference Walking Together events.

The online assembly agenda has yet to be decided. However, participants can plan on the assembly taking place over the course of May 13-15, 2021. Times and agenda will be available in March of 2021.

Included in our business meeting will be voting for Church-wide Assembly 2022 participants, members of the Consultation and Discipline committees, and on the Repudiation of the Doctrine of Discovery.



Visio Divina

Thank you to Prince of Peace, Eagle River who puts together a Visio Divina each week using poem/psalms written by members of the congregation. This week, the poem "What She Felt" is written by Bishop Katherine Finegan. Bishop Katherine reads her words reflecting on the Samaritan woman at the well (John 4).

***[https://nglsynod.us5.list-manage.com/track/click?
u=1660157542ed666bad1aedab2&id=6b752b2e2e&e=21835e0a3b](https://nglsynod.us5.list-manage.com/track/click?u=1660157542ed666bad1aedab2&id=6b752b2e2e&e=21835e0a3b)***

Poem by Bishop Katherine Finegan

What She Felt

**"It's been too long
People gather
In their cars
In lawn chairs
In the Spirit.**

**The sun shines. The heart aches. Faces smile bravely, warmly,
behind their masks.**

The worship begins and I feel it coming.

We sing, we pray, the feeling builds...

A swell of emotion rising,

**a growing pressure, a flood piling up behind a dam
filling my heart until it threatens to choke my voice, spill out my eyes.**

Is this what the Samaritan woman felt?

when she began to suspect just who it was who was talking to her?

Did she feel this?

This gushing up to over-flowing?

This inability to contain

her grief?

Her hope?

**The gospel, just reading it, speaking it aloud for those assembled,
pushes water over the dam.**

I feel something give

as I see the words I will say next.

It's all there,

THE reason.

This is why we are here.

This is why we take such pains to gather far apart.

It is for him, because of him,

and

**this ancient conversation between an inquisitive woman of Samaria
and the living water that asks to drink from the well.**

She says, "I know that Messiah is coming"

And Jesus spills out into the world...

I am he."



From the President...

Thank you to Diane and Greg Kliss for organizing the highway cleanup again and to everyone who participated. Special thanks to Pastor Grant who went out with Rob Peterson after worship to do a section.

Last month I mentioned that the synod was getting three candidates for calls and we were at the top of the list. Since then I was told that all three candidates went to other synods, so we are not getting one of them. Be patient! Our time will come! In the meantime, please help around here as best you can.

In person worship is still being discussed. Our attendance has been small, but there have been many visitors, so we are continuing to be open to fill the needs of others. Live streaming is still available when everything works, watching the service later is usually a possibility. We have been having around 40 or more people watching.

We sent \$500 to Lutheran World Relief to help with the wildfires in the west. We also sent \$500 to Frederick Place. They are in need because they cannot hold their usual fund raisers.

Perry and I took 48 quilts to Iron Mountain. Not our usual quantity, but enough to help some people. Five quilts were also sent with Betty and Larry Roth to an Indian reservation earlier this year.

We received a \$500 grant from the synod with which to buy a computer for the office. Linda Swanson is researching the best one to meet our needs. She is also working to get a button on the website for contributions. Thanks, Linda!

Stay warm, stay healthy, and keep our church and church family in your prayers!

Marge



Thought of the Day

“Minnie Louise Haskins, a young dedicated missionary in 1908, ministering in arduous circumstances, penned the words of a poem that has comforted and inspired the masses and royalty alike:

‘And I said to the man who stood at the gate of the year:

“Give me a light that I may tread safely into the unknown.”

And he replied:

“Go out into the darkness and put your hand in the Hand of God.
That shall be to you better than light and safer than a known way.”



Minnie Louise Haskins as quoted by Anthony Kent in his article for Ministry Magazine, from “God Knows” and her Along the Beam blog Dec. 31, 2017.

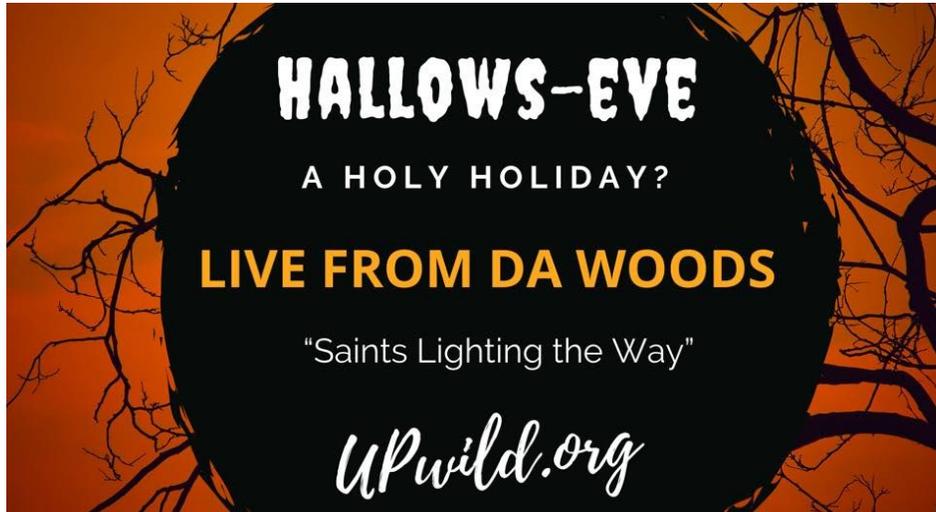
SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 1 IS ALL SAINTS DAY

This is a day that our Church remembers our beloved dead. On this day, we will also remember the many who have died during this pandemic. Please include all those who grieve in your prayers during worship and your personal devotions.

“Whether we live, or whether we die, we are the Lord’s.”

May God comfort all who mourn as we surround the grieving with the warm embrace of communities of faith and the love of God in Christ Jesus.





Upcoming UP Wild Events

Faith communities join together offering wisdom on how to restore our communion with all of Creation. Submit a prayer and watch online.

Centering Prayer

Friday, October 23 | 6 pm | Zoom + Facebook Live

Hosted by U.P. Wild and guided by Gabriela (Rise, Philadelphia) and Lanni (U.P. Wild, Michigan). Centering prayer is a Christian practice or discipline, that goes as far back as our Desert Mothers & Fathers. It's also called Contemplative prayer, or Christian Meditation.

Please email lanni@upwild.org to register for the Zoom link to join us "in the room."

Live 'From Da Woods'

Friday, October 30 | 6 pm | Facebook Live

All Hallows' Eve falls on October 31 each year, and is the day before All Hallows' Day, also known as All Saints' Day in the Christian calendar. The name derives from the Old English 'hallowed' meaning holy or sanctified and is now usually contracted to the more familiar word Halloween. We will broadcast live from da woods sharing some forgotten history and asking you to bring your favorite Saint to share and hear about some holy pilgrims to inspire us on our journey.

ANNOUNCEMENTS



FACEBOOK

It's true! Faith Lutheran Church now has a Facebook page. "Like" us at <http://www.facebook.com/faith3lakes/> and watch the page for updates about what's happening in the life of our faith community.



PRAYER SHAWLS

To give comfort and peace. There is a tote of prayer shawls under the shelf when you walk in. If you know someone who is lonely and would use one, feel free to take one. Once wrapped around their shoulders it feels like a hug from Jesus and their friends.

LIVE-STREAMING

Did you know that when you're away, you can watch Pastor's sermon as it's delivered LIVE on Sunday morning? You can! Simply go to our church's website (<https://www.faithlutheran-threelakes.org/>) and click "Click here to watch live streaming during worship (Sundays at 9:00 am)" right on the front page. Just put in a name and hit "Enter Live Service". Streaming will start at the reading of the Gospel, which usually happens between 9:10 and 9:15, give or take a few minutes, so if nothing is happening yet when you start watching, just wait a few minutes. You can also watch a recording of many of Pastor's sermons on our website. Simply go to our church website, and go to "Worship" --> "Pastor's Sermons" and click on any sermon in the Archive of Recorded Sermons. It's that easy!

BAPTISMS WE REMEMBER THIS MONTH



We remember All Saints Day with the many saints who have gone before us.

But the saints are not all departed. They are among us. For in our baptism, God has chosen us to be his people, and that's what it means to be a saint!

During November, remember that through our

baptism, you are a saint of God. Celebrate and remember in your prayers your brothers and sisters who have an anniversary of baptism this month.

- 16th Lee Klauk

Also remember: Elton Gensler, Brian Erikson, and Jim Nykolayko.

MONTHLY OFFERING AND ATTENDANCE

Year: 2020
Month: September
Number of Sundays: 4
Average Attendance: 27 (includes Confirmation)

AUGUST '20	MONTH	YTD
Budget Income	\$ 6,938	\$ 66,483
Expenses	\$ 4,056	\$ 56,078
Net Income	\$ 5,276	\$ 35,034

*** This will be provided on a quarterly basis



IN OUR THOUGHTS AND PRAYERS

THOSE STRUGGLING WITH ILLNESS, PAIN, LOSS OF HEALTH IN MIND, BODY, AND SPIRIT: Kyle Smith, Paul Kragh, Monte James, Missy Wick, Sue Sorg, Rick Jacobson, Ollie DeMuth, Megan Schiller, Barb Hanson, Bob Beyer, Charlotte Jensen, Ann Woelfel, Colleen and Duane Bonack, John and Connie Lyons, Donna Weiss and family, Dave Lederhaus, Val Otto and the family of Brittain and Courtney Lorenz, the family of Dave Cyrtmus, and Sonia and John Dionne.

Our home-bound: Norm Frauenfelder

Our armed forces including: David Bredesen, Kaley Ebann, Tyler Kaltenberg, Nick, Brandy and Nathan Lamal, Jamie Madl, Jared Malda, Jon Priem, Brandon Paulick, Charlie and Will Starke, Nicole Young, and Alex Brendemihl.

ALL THOSE WHO ARE ANXIOUS AND WORRIED ABOUT MANY THINGS

Our Church Ministries:

Congregational Care
Congregation Council
Board of Worship Life
Board of Outreach
Board of Trustees
Marywood Franciscan Spirituality Center

Our partners in the gospel of Jesus Christ including:

St. Theresa's Roman Catholic Church
Three Lakes Evangelical Free Church
Union Congregational Church
Grace Lutheran Church

Our synod, the Northern Great Lakes Synod of the ELCA, and its congregations.

Our companion synod, the Eastern and Coastal Diocese of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in Tanzania, and its congregations.



STEWARDSHIP CALENDARS



October

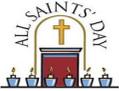
	10/4/20	10/11/20	10/18/20	10/25/20
Assisting Minister	---	---	---	---
Lay Reader	Marge Anderson	Marge Anderson	Rob Peterson	Jan Harris
Altar Guild	---	---	---	---
Greeters	Andersons	Sue Sorg and Jan Harris	Sue Sorg and Jan Harris	Andersons
Music	Sue Sorg	Rhonda Buss	Rhonda Buss	Rhonda Buss
Fellowship	---	---	---	---
Video-streaming	---	---	---	---

November

	11/1/20	11/8/20	11/15/20	11/22/20	11/29/20
Assisting Minister	---	---	---	---	---
Lay Reader	Rob Peterson	Marge Anderson	Rob Peterson	Jan Harris	Rob Peterson
Altar Guild	---	---	---	---	---
Greeters	Andersons	Sue Sorg and Jan Harris	Sue Sorg and Jan Harris	Andersons	Sue Sorg and Jan Harris
Music	Rhonda Buss	Dawn Gonitzke	Dawn Gonitzke	Dawn Gonitzke	Dawn Gonitzke
Fellowship	---	---	---	---	
Video-streaming	---	---	---	---	

** If you cannot serve on your assigned day, please find a replacement, then notify the church office. **

November 2020

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
1 9:00 am All Saints Day 	2 Office Closed	3 10:00 am – 12:00 pm Pastor John's Office Hours	4	5	6 Office Closed	7
8 9:00 am Holy Communion	9 Office Closed	10 10:00 am – 12:00 pm Pastor John's Office Hours 1:00 pm Council Meeting	11	12	13 Office Closed	14
15 9:00 am Holy Communion	16 Office Closed	17 10:00 am – 12:00 pm Pastor John's Office Hours	18	19	20 Office Closed	21
22 9:00 am Holy Communion	23 Office Closed	24 10:00 am – 12:00 pm Pastor John's Office Hours	25	26 Thanksgiving 	27 Office Closed	28
29 9:00 am Holy Communion	30 Office Closed					

Faith Lutheran Church
P.O. Box 436
Three Lakes, WI 54562

FAITH LUTHERAN CHURCH

A member of the Northern Great Lakes Synod
of the Evangelical Lutheran Church of America

P.O. Box 436
6995 U.S. Highway 45 South
Three Lakes, WI 54562

Church Office: 715-546-2770

Office Hours: 9:00 am – 12:00 pm
Tuesday – Thursday (closed Monday and Friday)

WEEKLY WORSHIP

Sunday Morning – 9:00 am
Holy Communion

STAFF

Office Administrator: MaryBeth Koslowski
office6995@gmail.com

Interim Pastor: Rev. John Kuziej
pllc@frontier.com

Custodian: Debbie Hock

Organist: Rhonda Buss

VISIT US ON THE WEB

<https://www.faithlutheran-threelakes.org>

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