



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

FAITH'S FOUNDATIONS

April 2024

FROM PASTOR CATIE

“But grow in the grace and knowledge of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. To him be the glory both now and to the day of eternity. Amen.”

-2 Peter 3:18

In February I began working with my first confirmation class at Faith. I am extremely thankful for this group of youth. In our first month together, they were open about their lives, weren't afraid to ask questions, and confidently shared what they know about Christ and the church. And this was only the beginning!

As I prepare for our next gathering, I find myself thinking about growth. These young people are growing in their knowledge of Christ. They are growing in their faith. And I too, am growing. Their questions and perspectives make me think in new and different ways. By being my first confirmation class, they are also helping me to grow as a pastor and leader. For this I give thanks.

It also makes me wonder, where are you seeing growth in your knowledge in Christ? How are you growing in your faith? Spring is the season of growth. And while we did get some snow late last month, I know that growth is happening all around and within us. May we take time to notice the growth that is happening in the world, in the Northwoods, in our congregation, and in our own lives this month.

Peace,
 Pastor Catie

FROM THE PRESIDENT

Just before I sat down to write this I read the verses from Haggai the prophet which was part of the daily devotion for today. The thing that stuck out to me was the verse that ended with “my Spirit abides among you, do not fear” . That is certainly a promise from God we can count on! Sometimes we worry when we see empty pews. But Haggai was trying to dispel any worry we may have by assuring us that no matter what, the Holy Spirit will never leave us. That promise stands firmly. Haggai was talking to the people returning from exile. We might think our situation is a lot different nowadays, but we know something about exile having come through the pandemic. We were all closed up relying on video streaming. Now when we look around on Sundays we may think the

church will never recover fully. Its easy to tell ourselves to avoid hasty plans or to be certain of our footing before forging ahead. After all, good stewardship means having our priorities and our households in order. And when it comes to giving, be sure not to overextend ourselves, right? Haggai was addressing these very worries and excuses. Haggai wants us to know that the time to do God's work is always now. So I hope there is nothing holding you back when you are thinking about giving of your time, talents, or money. In the Old Testament, God's people met God and greeted Him through their sacrifices. They made their offerings in order to have the glory of God appear to them. This thought is out of Leviticus. The mandatory offerings removed the “ negative space” sin created between God and people. The voluntary gifts would initiate a positive encounter with God, who promised to respond with pleasure to freewill offerings. We still make contact with God through our giving. The negative space has been removed by Christ's sacrifice we celebrate during Easter, and we can experience God's approval by our kindness to one another. And our generosity. God blesses us so we can be a blessing to others. God does not give us wealth to increase our standard of living, but to increase our standard of giving. That last comment was by Terry A. Parker.

The church council will be looking at bids for a new boiler system for the parsonage during our April meeting. So we will be bringing this information to the congregation soon and asking for approval of a plan to raise the necessary funds to accomplish this project. It would be great if we could bring you the new constitution to be able to look at both during the same meeting. Still waiting patiently. Otherwise the council continues doing the work of the church.

As always, if you have concerns or questions please bring these to the attention of a council member.

Robin Peterson

FROM THE BISHOP

“I planted, Apollos watered, but God gave the growth. So neither the one who plants nor the one who waters is anything, but only God who gives the growth. The one who plants and the one who waters have a common purpose, For we are God's servants, working together”

~I Corinthians 3: 6-9

Dear People of the Northern Great Lakes Synod,
 At the risk of getting too personal, I share with you that my mother joined the Saints Triumphant on February 11. As the deadline for this article is February 12, I cannot help but approach this task with thoughts of my mother at the forefront.

In this year, as together we as a synod consider what it means to be a Seed Sower and what it means to plant, and as I make plans with my siblings to celebrate the life of my mother, I can think of no better example of one who planted seeds and one who witnessed the yield of seeds planted by others long ago.

My mother was born in India in July 1932, the daughter of missionaries. She, along with her four siblings, was brought up in the faith. She was taught the love of Jesus, the value of compassion, and the expectation of sharing the love of God in a way that makes a difference.

The seeds of faith planted in her bore fruit as she became a nurse, the wife of a seminary professor, the mother of five children, and a generous giver of time, talents, and treasure. She sang in choirs, kissed scraped knees, worked church funerals and became a matriarch of her community of faith. She was a parish nurse at Luther Seminary and her church library was named after her in honor of the hours invested in cataloging, arranging, and gathering literature.

I could go on. But of course, it is the rare mother that doesn't inspire the accolades of her children. My mother was no exception. But in this season of Seed Sowers, I am grateful for the seeds of faith, and the example of generosity, that my mother gave me and all who knew her.

She not only planted seeds but enjoyed the fruit of seeds planted by others. She witnessed the seeds planted by missionaries when years later, she returned to India to visit the church and seminary founded by my grandfather and others. She saw how many pastors, native to India, had graduated from that seminary and students that are attending.

We give thanks for the churches that were planted and the people who came to know Jesus through their efforts.

And now? I invite you to consider what seeds of faith you are planting. Whether you are working to pass on the faith to the next generation, or enjoying the fruit of seeds planted long ago, I invite you to intentionally plant seeds for future faith, future ministry. This can happen in many ways:

- Volunteer
- Share your story of faith with a stranger, doubts and all

- Support a ministry effort with your financial gift.
- Share your story of faith with a loved one.
- Remember THE Church or Your church in your will.
- Work on your own discipleship. Take a class, go to church, invite a friend.

In this time of great change, I am grateful for the seeds of faith planted long ago, and the seeds of faith planted now which will bear fruit in the future. We are part of a great cycle of life, this shape of the Christian life that involves dying and rising, Good Friday and Easter, death and resurrection, planting and harvesting.

The spirit of my mother lives on in those who remember her, and the Spirit of the Living Christ lives as only the son of God can - to call, enlighten and sanctify those who gather and are sent in his name, to plant seeds that someone else will water, and someone else will harvest.

I give thanks for the blessing of my mother, and for all who have planted seeds of faith.

Yours in Christ,
Bishop Katherine Finegan

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.



LIVE STREAMING

Did you know that when you're away, you can watch the entire service 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, which usually happens around 8:55, 9:00 am, 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 our services on our website. Simply go to our church website and click "Click here to view recordings of worship" to watch any past services. It's that easy!

QUILTING

Quilting is back in session! Please join us every Wednesday at 12:30 pm in the lower level of the church. No experience necessary!

ONLINE GIVING

You can support our mission easier than ever with our donation platform! You can visit <https://secure.myvanco.com/YHQE/home> and contribute securely online. Thank you for your continued support!

RETREAT

A DEEPER SPIRITUALITY WITHIN THE HEART

April 26th-28th 2024, Check in 3:00pm Friday followed by orientation at 5:45pm, supper at 6:00pm. Ends Sunday after noon meal. Investment: \$225 At St Anthony Center Marathon WI 54448

Worship in the Wild Hike

April 27th 2024 2:00pm Raven Trail 8420 Woodruff Rod #8332 Woodruff, WI 54568 Meet up at trailhead

Three Lakes Christian Food Pantry Collections

April 28th-May 26th Collecting donations for Food pantry, looking for Paper Products & Personal Hygiene Products Needed items: Toilet papers, paper towels & tissues Bar soap or body wash; mens & women's 2 in 1, deodorants; rooth paste & brushes. Please place items in shopping cart in narthex, any donations are very much appreciated.

BIBLE STUDY

Bible Study is offered following Sunday church services EVERY Sunday! All are invited and welcome to attend! No bible required! Please join us for some lively discussions!

BAPTISMS WE REMEMBER THIS MONTH

It is Lent and we are on the journey to the cross. The journey is not easy, but we are not alone! Through our baptism we are joined in our journey. We are joined by all of God's people of every time and every place. And we are joined by our Lord himself.

Remember your baptism during this season of Lent. And remember those who this month celebrate their "Baptismal Birthday" – the day God claimed them to be his!

- 1st- Aimee Bauknecht
- 3rd-Melanie Fogerty & Stephen Korten Hof
- 6th-Trevor Landreth
- 8th-Vinnie Terlizzi
- 9th-Jerry Gilbertson
- 11th- Oliva Terlizzi
- 12th-Val Otto
- 16th-L.J. Terlizzi & Grace Lopez

- 24th-Paul Bredesen, Marny Miles & Sonia Dionne
- 27th-Linda Wilkowski
- 29th-Diane Kliss
- 30th-Jacob Madl

Also Rember: Thomas Obenberger and Griffin Schroeder.

MONTHLY OFFERING AND ATTENDANCE

JANUARY 2024	MONTH	YTD SEP – NOV
INCOME	\$16,885.96.	\$16,885.96
EXPENSES	\$11,677.83	\$11,677.83
NET	\$ 5,208.13	\$5,208.13

****THIS WILL BE PROVIDED ON A QUARTERLY BASIS**

Year: 2024	Year: 2024
Month February	Month: March
# of Services.: 5	# of Services.: 7
Average: 28	Average:29
Average online: 40	Average online: 40

IN OUR THOUGHTS AND PRAYERS

THOSE STRUGGLING WITH ILLNESS, PAIN, LOSS OF HEALTH IN MIND, BODY, AND SPIRIT:

Kyle Smith, Paul Kragh, Ollie DeMuth, Megan Schiller, Ann Woelfel, Duane and Colleen Bonack, Rick Gensler, Sr., Hailey Schultz, Ruth Sammetinger, Beth Schomisch, Jim Stroschein, Bonnie Pegel, Kris Tenges, Lou Medeiros, Myrna Stroschein, Heidi Lulloff, Olivia, Emma and Chase Kirby, Maggie Servant and Delores Rutherford.

ALL THOSE WHO ARE ANXIOUS AND WORRIED ABOUT MANY THINGS

OUR CHURCH MINISTRIES

- Congregational Care
- Congregation Council
- Board of Worship Life (BOWL)
- 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
 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 CALENDAR

April 2024

	4/7/24	4/14/24	4/21/24	4/28/24
Reader	Phoebe Pettingell	Jan Harris	Johnathon Coggins	Robbin Peterson
Greeter	Amy Davis And Debby Carlson	Jan Harris	-	Amy Davis And Debby Carlson
Music	Rhonda Buss	Rhonda Buss	Rhonda Buss	Rhonda Buss
Video	Dillon Ford	Dillon Ford	Dillon Ford	Dillon Ford

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

April 2024

SUN.	MON.	TUES.	WED.	THURS.	FRI.	SAT.
	1	2	3	4	5 Office Closed	6
7 9:00 am Holy Communion	8	9	10 12:30 pm Quilting	11	12 Office Closed	13
14 9:00 am Holy Communion Sunday School 3:00pm Chili Cook off	15	16	17 12:30 pm Quilting	18	19 Office Closed	20
21 9:00 am Holy Communion	22	23	24 12:30 pm Quilting	25	26 Office Closed St Anthony Retreat Check In 3:00pm	27 Worship In the Wild Hike 2:00pm
28 9:00 am Holy Communion Sunday School Food Pantry Drive Begins Highway Clean up	29	30			Office Closed	

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

WORKING TO SPREAD THE GOSPEL HERE AND THROUGHOUT THE WORLD!

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

Pastor Catie's Office Hours: 9:00 am – 12:30 pm
Monday – Thursday

Office Hours: 10:00 am – 1:00 pm
Tuesday – Thursday

WEEKLY WORSHIP

Sunday Morning – 9:00 am
Holy Communion

STAFF

Office Administrator: MaryBeth Koslowski
office6995@gmail.com

Pastor: Reverend Catie Ford
pastorcatieford@gmail.com
Work Phone: 715-600-3980

Organist: Rhonda Buss

Custodian: Sara Palubicki

VISIT US ON THE WEB

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

VISIT US ON FACEBOOK

<https://www.facebook.com/faith3lakes>



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