



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

FAITH'S FOUNDATIONS

March 2025

FROM PASTOR CATIE

This year for Lent we are trying something new! Each week a poem and practice from *Remind Me Again: Poems and Practices for Remembering Who We Are* by Joe Davis will be available at church and sent out electronically. Everyone is invited to read the poem and participate in the practice from their homes. Lent is often a time when folks will give something up. But this year, I hope that you will try adding something! These poems and practices will provide an opportunity for us to spend time with Christ in new ways. Throughout the season we will sit with reminders for ourselves, each other, and the world. May we be challenged to think in different ways. May we be reminded of our identity as children of God. And may we spend intentional time with the Triune God during this journey to the cross. I've included a poem and practice so you can get a taste of what is to come this season.

Peace,
Pastor Catie

Prophetic Imagination

A reminder of how to change the world.

"Think about it, write it down, and say it out loud,
Feel it in your body when you're moving around,
Sing alone and together, you and a crowd,
Let your voices rise like a beautiful cloud.

What sensations do you want to feel on your skin and in your hair?

What aromas and scents do you want to fill the air?

What bursts of flavors do you most want to taste?

What sounds and vibrations do you want to resonate?

What textures and colors can you find to paint
the sacred and profane, the sinner and the saint?

We all got a spark, we just came to fan the flame,
we all got a part in whatever we can make.

Life's a sculpture, put your hands up in the clay,
Dip your toes in the water, let the dance take shape."

Try this practice:

Create a vision board with images of people and places you want to pray for or hold in your heart. What are your most courageous and compassionate hopes for the future of the world and what are actions you can take to bring those hopes to life?

FROM THE PRESIDENT

I have just a couple thoughts as I sit down to write to you all. The first of my thoughts come from Psalm 19 and the fourteenth verse which was the focus verse for us on a daily devotional not too long ago. "Let the words of my mouth and the meditation of my heart be acceptable to you."

Sometimes we think our words and intentions have to be perfect in order to get God's attention. But God's attention isn't something we need to try and get. It is a gift. God's love is a grace given to us. And God's presence is an unconditional promise for us. We have God's ear and God's love.

Something I really felt as I skied the Birkie this past Saturday. I was so stressed the Day before because I had forgotten this very important point. The day went so well I didn't need to agonize over how things would go. The other thought I have been meditating on involves growing the church. How do we grow the church? How do we get the young people to come to our church? Questions on many of our minds.

I read a devotional from a pastor on this very subject. And the answer is always the same according to her: There is no gimmick or scheme that will lure people into church, so stop trying to find one. So what should we do? Well, we have a story to tell. It is a very compelling story about God's love and the grace that makes us feel that we can be who God really wants us to be.

Another important point that this pastor had was to build relationships with people by listening to their story. So if we tell our story and learn their story, hopefully, we can discover together where God is at work in our lives. Our prayer could be for the words we need, the courage, and the opportunity to tell Jesus' story.

In other business of the church, the boards and council are busy as usual. Thankfully we are at a quiet time of the church year, if there is such a thing. As always, if you have any questions or concerns please bring these to the attention of one of the members of the church council.

Sincerely,
Robin Peterson

FROM THE BISHOP

"What then shall we say to this? If God is for us, who is against us?" - Romans 8:31

Dear People of the Northern Great Lakes Synod,
As I write this article, we are still in a flurry of executive orders and declarations that give rise to a host of emotions. While some are cheering campaign promises kept, others fear for those most impacted and question the constitutional integrity of actions and orders. My own heart feels heavy as funds have been paused for humanitarian aid. I know the work of Lutheran Social Services makes a compassionate difference in the world and frankly, US AID funds make America look good. (It was through USAID grants that the NGLS was able to help build Kisarawe Junior Theological Seminary in Tanzania.) As we consider our theme of Seeds Sowers and planting seeds of faith, the seeds that are now being sown by these actions are unclear. Within that space of planting and growth is the tension between border security and a compassionate immigration system that works, between excessive spending and effective stewardship of federal resources, between legal processes and getting things done. What then shall we say to this?

There is much that I disagree with, and much that provokes concern. But my understanding of the example and call of Jesus to be his disciple brings me back to what I can do, what I should do, and what lies beyond my reach (although not beyond my grief and disquiet.) I can call my congressional representatives to work to restore funds, and in the meantime, I can encourage congregations to gather in their Synod Assembly offering for World Hunger. I can support local and global efforts to address issues of poverty. I can participate with the efforts of our synod to make a difference with the people who are in our reach and continue to educate around international issues even as we pray for peaceful resolutions and just action.

And I can remember, and remind you and myself, that the God we proclaim is one who promises new life from death. The Savior we serve is one who bids us to "go and do likewise," not seeking to condemn but inviting us into a deeper understanding of how it is that the least are the greatest. God is for us and working through us to be the presence of Christ. What that means for us in these days, we figure out together. I find that the words of ELW Hymn #705 speak to me with new resonance:

*God of grace, and God of glory
On your people pour your power.
Crown your ancient church's story.
Bring its bud to glorious flower.
Grant us wisdom, grant us courage,
for the facing of this hour.*

Lo! The hosts of evil round us

*scorn the Christ, assail his ways.
From the fears that long have bound us
free our hearts to faith and praise.
Grant us wisdom, grant us courage,
for the living of these days.*

*Cure your children's warring madness;
Bend our pride to your control;
Shame our wanton, selfish gladness,
rich in things and poor in soul.
Grant us wisdom, grant us courage,
lest we miss your Kingdom's goal.*

*Save us from weak resignation
to the evils we deplore;
Let the gift of your salvation
be our glory evermore.
Grant us wisdom, grant us courage,
serving you whom we adore.*

Grant us wisdom.
Grant us courage.

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.

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!

SUNDAY SCHOOL

This year we will gather on the 2nd and 4th Sunday of each month after worship. Invite you children, grandchildren, friends, and neighbors to join in the fun!

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!

ONLINE GIVING

You can support our mission easier than ever with our donation platform! You can visit

faith3lakes.churchtrac.com and contribute securely online.

When utilizing ChurchTrac to electronically donate to Faith Lutheran Three Lakes, please take the following into consideration:

Go to: faith3lakes.churchtrac.com

Go to: "On-Line Giving" click "Give Now"

Enter: "User Name and Password" OR "Create a New Account"

Complete Donation Details: (Prayerfully consider "Clicking" on the "Help Cover the Card Processing Fee") Thank you for your continued support!

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!

Communion Assistant

We are creating a new way to serve in worship! In the past, the reader also served as the communion assistant. However, some folks have expressed interest in serving communion but are not interested in reading.

Moving forward, anyone who would like to be a communion assistant can let the office know! If no communion assistant is assigned, we ask that the reader continue to serve in this way as well.

Ash Wednesday

Join us March 5th at 7:00 pm for an Ash Wednesday service.

Worship in the Wild

You're invited to join Worship in the Wild Saturday March 22nd at 2:00pm. They will gather at Tara Lila Sundstein Trail 128 Sundstein Rd, Eagle River, WI 54521. Reach out to Pastor Catie with any questions.

BAPTISMS WE REMEMBER THIS MONTH

It is Lent and we are on the journey to cross. The journey is not easy, be we are not alone! Through our baptism we are joined in our journey. We are joined by all of God's people of ever 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.

24th Daniel Hannam

28th Gerrienne Rawoens

Also Remember: Connie Gensler, Chuck Radtke, Griffen Schroeder, and Joyce Nykolayko

Monthly Attendance

Year: 2025

Year: 2025

Month: January

Month: February

of Services: 4

of Services: 4

Average: 26

Average: 33

Average online: 27

Average online: 39

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., Ruth Sammetinger, Beth Schomisch, Jim Stroschein, Kris Tenges, Myrna Stroschein, Heidi Lulloff, Olivia, Maggie Servant, Delores Rutherford, Rich Collins, Bob Buss, Eric Swanson, and Diane Lulloff.

ALL THOSE WHO ARE ANXIOUS AND WORRIED ABOUT MANY THINGS

OUR CHURCH MINISTRIES

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

Treasurer's Report

Month	Donations	Expenses	Monthly Net	Fiscal YTD
Sept	\$8,088.70	\$10,107.39	-\$2,018.69	-\$1,335.98
Oct	\$7,214.10	\$8,662.22	-\$1,448.12	-\$2,784.10
Nov	\$5,910.15	\$9,109.48	-\$3,199.33	-\$5,983.43
Dec	\$20,399.40	\$9,389.96	\$11,009.44	\$5,026.01
Jan	\$8,423.45	\$9,209.43	-\$785.98	\$4,240.03
Feb				
Mar				
Apr				
May				
Jun				
July				
Aug				

Stewardship Calander

March 2025

	<u>3/2/25</u>	<u>3/5/25</u>	<u>3/9/25</u>	<u>3/16/25</u>	<u>3/23/25</u>	<u>3/30/25</u>
<u>Reader</u>	Robin Peterson	Johnathon Coggins	Jan Harris	Linda Swanson	Robin Peterson	Johnathan Coggins
<u>Greeter</u>			Jan Harris	Amy Davis & Debby Carlson	Chris and Jacque Deidtz	Amy Davis & Debby Carlson
<u>Music</u>	Rhonda Buss	Rhonda Buss	Rhonda Buss	Rhonda Buss	Rhonda Buss	Val Snedden
<u>Video</u>	Dillon Ford	Dillon Ford	Dillon Ford	Dillon Ford	Dillon Ford	Dillon Ford

March 2025

SUN.	MON.	TUES.	WED.	THURS.	FRI.	SAT.
						1
2 9:00 am Holy Communion Fellowship/ Bible Study	3	4	5 12:30 pm Quilting 7:00 pm Ash Wednesday Service	6	7	8
9 9:00 am Holy Communion Bible Study/ Sunday School Confirmation 11am-2pm	10	11 6:15pm Board Meeting 7:00pm Council Meeting	12 12:30 pm Quilting	13	14	15
16 9:00am Holy Communion Bible Study	17	18	19 12:30 pm Quilting	20	21	22 2:00 pm Worship in the Wild
23 9:00 am Holy Communion Bible Study/ Sunday School	24	25	26 12:30 pm Quilting	27	28	29
30 9:00 am Holy Communion Bible Study	31					



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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

Office Hours:

Monday/Wednesday/Friday

2:30 pm – 5:30 pm

Pastor Catie's Office Hours:

Mondays at Mugs 9:00am – 12pm

Tuesday: 9:00am – 12pm

Wednesday: 9:00am – 12pm

Thursday: 9:00am – 12pm

WEEKLY WORSHIP

Sunday Morning – 9:00 am

VISIT US ON THE WEB

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

VISIT US ON FACEBOOK

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

STAFF

Office Administrator: Connor Hanneman
 office6995@gmail.com

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

Organist: Rhonda Buss
Custodian: Sara Palubicki

