



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

FAITH'S FOUNDATIONS

April 2025

FROM PASTOR CATIE

As we continue our Lenten journey, I have found that the poems and practices from Joe Davis have offered us much to reflect on. We have been reminded of abundance, the importance of working together, and the presence of the Triune God in our lives.

Something I think we all need to be reminded of from time to time is to let go. We live in a world that tells us we need to be in control and understand the plan. Yet we have a God who is constantly saying let me carry your burdens.

Letting go is often easier said than done. So, this month I leave you with an invitation. Read Davis poem "Let Go" and try the practice at the end. May you find peace in the physical action of giving your burdens to God.

Peace,
 Pastor Catie

Let Go

A reminder to let go

Letting go can be as easy as breathing, eating, and sleeping.

As easy as breathing,
 Inhaling and receiving the oxygen you're needing,
 Exhaling and releasing the toxins you're leaving.

As easy as eating
 Fruit and receiving the nutrients you're needing,
 Spitting out the pits and seeds you're leaving.

As easy as sleeping,
 Receiving the rest that you're needing,
 Relieved of the tension and stress that you're leaving.

When it's easier said than done, ask your soul:
 What do I hold that I can't control?
 If it's blocking life's flow,
 How can I let go?

Try this practice:

Write down three things you want to let go of and release them to the elements. Burn the list, let it float away in water, or release it to blow away in the wind.

FROM THE PRESIDENT

One of the things that has stood out to me as I have been reading the devotions for Lent in the Life Renewed booklet, has been the number of questions that the authors have posed for almost each day. The writers bring their diverse voices and wisdom to each day's reflection and points to ponder, and these are wonderful. But the questions raised almost each day help us to sit with, and bring into focus, thoughts for us today in our everyday lives and whatever situation we are in now. Some of the questions have us evaluate various aspects of our faith lives. What I really like is that these devotions help us keep learning and evolving in our faith. It really is a journey we are on.

The last one I read had questions whether or not the focus verses represented a command or a request. These questions for us were followed by possible answers. I think at a basic level many of the scriptures we read in Lent are about God's call for us to come home. Come home to Him. So many people give stuff up for Lent. Maybe we should add instead. Add time to sit and answer some of these questions. Good stuff.

I know I say this almost every month but I am continually impressed by the work our Boards are doing. Many are looking ahead and planning for the events and needs our congregation will have. The Education Board is looking ahead to this summer and what needs to be done to put on the Day Camp. It is not until July 6-10, but work and planning has already begun. Stay tuned to their plans and be ready to help with your generous donations to make this a success. I know that volunteers will be needed.

Talk about Senior Sunday has already begun as we honor the Seniors who will graduate this spring. The Trustees and Brad Bisnette have been working together to research the replacement of the sign at the driveway entrance. It is amazing when there are so many variables and possibilities to consider when we try to decide the best approach to drawing attention to our church entrance and to what is going on inside our building.

The Council is also studying the Wedding Policy as it needs its three-year review. So, you see your Church Council is busy doing the many things needed so we can continue to enjoy our worship here at Faith.

As always if you have any concerns or questions please bring them to the attention of a member of the Church Council.

Sincerely,
Robin Peterson

FROM THE ASSISTANT TO THE BISHOP

“Truly I tell you, whoever does not receive the kingdom of God as a little child will never enter it.” - Luke 18:17 (Matthew 18:3, Mark 10:15)

I am in a moment of life where my guiding words and my moving feet are synching up. I have long imagined Jesus' many passages on children and childhood to form a Theology of Childhood, that illumines our path as disciples. Much to the dismay to the named disciples, Jesus speaks to and about children a lot...eight unique times across the Gospels. This particular passage in Luke is simple...to receive the fullness of the kingdom you must approach it like a child. And let's be clear, the Greek points to a real-life child (παιδιον), like the child in the manger, or presented in the Temple...not a new-comer to the Way of Jesus. Real-life children are full of kinetic mischievousness, curiosity, and wonder about the world they live in, so they can learn and grow safely in their context. The ability to adapt to change and approach life with curious wonder is a survival instinct that we tend to replace with more respectable skills in adulthood. And yet it is how Jesus invites us to enter the kingdom of God, the interconnect relationship of all things divine and ordinary, in sacred wonder.

Finding myself at a stage in life and ministry to take a risk, and follow a playful Spirit, I have found my way to be in ministry with you, as your new Assistant to the Bishop and Director of Evangelical Mission. Folks have asked: “What do you think of the snow? Or the cold? Or pasties? Or the lake? Or us...what do you think of us?” And God provides this child with delighted wonder, even with older eyes and bones, to see God's world brand new. And everything I have encountered: the snow, the egg-bakes, the roadways, dog-sleds, the diverse patterns of worship, snow-shoes, the pronunciation of names, the unity and diversity of life, the names of new trees, new stories, new relationships. New. All beautifully new. And all Page 3 Northern Light God's love and loveliness. And then there is the new that terrifies me: the change in climate that is experienced here too; the mis-trust of neighbor in polarized civic life; the impulse to protect self or family first and then neighbor, before the other way around. Give me new eyes to see with wonder...so that the way of Jesus is clear.

Jesus tells his disciples to receive God's empire like children...with playful wonder...that doesn't jump to

judgement, conclusions, or cynicism, but questions all things, even our own biases and beliefs. We are to reflect in the place of the inquisitive question and act from the location of the bold courage of a child who trusts the parent. I'm trying. And parts of it are easy...when I see the snow catch on the boughs of a tree or wonder how the waves froze in such strange contortions or triangle chicken salad sandwiches. The rest of my angst of the gasping earth, imperiled immigrants, de-humanized beloveds, de-valued webs of care...I crave more definition, certainty, and answers. Now, please. And even that expediency is the empire of consumption and production talking, not God's Empire. Lord, let me trust God's empire is most evident in the incomplete and open-ended story... the place of mystery and wonder that is the unfolding story of God's kingdom.

In Christ,
Pr. Sharolyn

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

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.

BAPTISMS WE REMEMBER THIS MONTH

on the cross and in the empty tomb, Jesus Christ triumphs over sin, death, and the power of evil. In our baptism we share in the death of Jesus and have the promise of new life through his resurrection!

Celebrate your freedom from sin, death, and the power of evil through your baptism into Christ Jesus. And remember in your prayers those who celebrate the anniversary of their baptisms this month.

1st Amiee Bauknecht

3rd Melanie Fogerty & Stephen Korten Hof

6th Trevor Landreth

8th Vinnie Terlizzi

9th Jerry Gilbertson

11th Olivia Terlizzi

12th Val Otto

16th L.J. Terlizzi & Grace Lopez

24th Paul Bredesen, Marney Miles, and Sonia Dionne

27th Linda Wilkowski

29th Diane Kliss

Also Remember: Thomas Obenberqer and Griffin Schroeder

Monthly Attendance

Year: 2025

Month: February

of Services: 4

Average: 33

Average online: 39

Year: 2025

Month: March

of Services: 6

Average: 22

Average online: 32

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

	Start of Fiscal	Year 2024 - 2025	Beginning Bal	\$682.71
Month	Donations	Expenses	Monthly Net	Fiscal Yr To Date
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	\$9,459.45	-\$1,036.00	\$3,990.01
Feb	\$7,194.46	\$9,529.85	-\$2,335.39	\$1,654.62
Mar				
Apr				
May				
Jun				
July				
Aug				

Stewardship Calander

April 2025

	<u>4/6/25</u>	<u>4/13/25</u>	<u>4/17/25</u>	<u>4/18/25</u>	<u>4/20/25</u>	<u>4/27/25</u>
<u>Reader</u>	Jan Harris	Phoebe Pettingell	Robin Peterson	Johnathon Coggins	Jan Harris	Phoebe Pettingell
<u>Greeter</u>	Jan Harris	Cris & Jacque Deidtz	-	-	Amy Davis & Debby Carlson	Amy Davis & Debby Carlson
<u>Music</u>	Val Snedden	Rhonda Buss	Rhonda Buss	Rhonda Buss	Rhonda Buss	Rhonda Buss
<u>Video</u>	Dillon Ford	Brad Bisnette	Dillon Ford	Dillon Ford	Dillon Ford	Dillon Ford

March 2025

SUN.	MON.	TUES.	WED.	THURS.	FRI.	SAT.
		1	2	3	4	5 Celebration of Life for Dale Johnson 11:00 am
6 9:00 am Holy Communion Fellowship/ Bible Study	7	8	9 12:30 pm Quilting	10	11	12
13 9:00 am Holy Communion Bible Study/ Sunday School	14	15	16 12:30 pm Quilting	17 Maundy Thursday Service 7:00 pm	18 Good Friday Service 7:00 pm	19
20 9:00am Holy Communion	21	22	23 12:30 pm Quilting	24	25	26
27 9:00 am Holy Communion Bible Study/ Sunday School	28	29	30 12:30 pm Quilting			



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God's work. Our hands.



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

