



FAITH LUTHERAN CHURCH

Faith Matters

MAY 2025

The Evangelical Lutheran Church in America

WORSHIP TIMES

SUNDAYS— 9:00 A.M.
WEDNESDAYS — 6:15 P.M.

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Ken O'Leary, *Custodian*
Tony Schad, *Custodian Helper & Lawn Cutter*

Sue Riesterer, Whitney Schamburek, Devin Zahringer
Organists

FLC President: Larry Burzynski
FLC Vice Pres: Alan Gilbertson
FLC VP Elect: Julie Hartman
Secretary: Mary Thomsen
Treasurer: Robert Pautz

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Pastor Invites Your Blessing

The day I am writing this article is the very day of Tax Day, April 15th, but you will not get this newsletter for a few days. At my house we went through our finances and looked forward to the tax obligations being behind us. Looked forward to "only 10 more payments" on the Subaru. And the whole money situation like that. Maybe you have recently, thanks to the taxing authorities, gone through your finances too.

I am not a pastor who preaches about money very much. I preach about money less than people worry about money, so maybe I should say more. But I would like to take this opportunity to remind you of a few things. Faith Lutheran Church is doing alright financially now. People remember when we were not doing well, but we are okay now.

Part of the reason we recovered from our down time was that we (just before I came here) had an interim pastor who only took a part-time salary **and** giving went up, so we were able to fully fund our budget and set a little aside. We were thrifty and there were volunteers who did the work we would otherwise have had to pay for. The people of Faith did the hard work and gave generously. You are a wonderful congregation.

In my 40 years of ministry, I have frequently reaped what others have sown. I had a struggling congregation that struggled for every dollar, hand-to-mouth, and then one day we received a notice that the congregation had received a bequest from a member who had died recently. Suddenly we didn't have to wait for the Sunday offering before we could pay the light bill. A few months later we were remembered in *another* member's will! All because a wise older interim pastor had talked to them about it before I got there, and they took action about it.

We are fine now, and I am glad of it, but in the 175-year life of this congregation we have not always been so abundantly blessed. So, I am asking you to prayerfully consider putting Faith Lutheran Church in your will. You are probably going to live for years and years, and who knows what the future holds, but I am asking you to plan a blessing in the future. A delight.

When I put a stew in the crock pot, I am happy all day, knowing that when I come home the house will smell delicious and the stew will be ready to eat. Imagine the rest of your life like that, knowing that when you go home (to the Lord) the house of God will be surprised by an unexpected blessing.

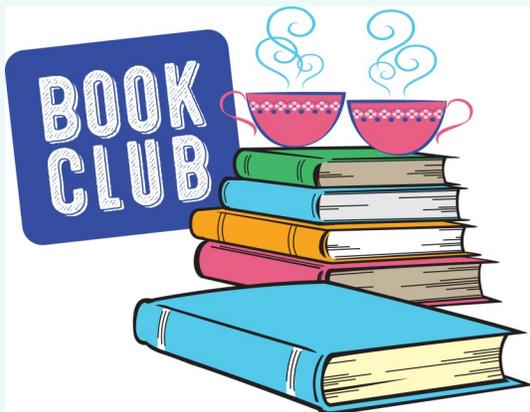
That said, I know that there are people who say, "Oh why wait? I want to give blessings now, while I can see and enjoy them. Here is the check for that." That's pretty good too.

Pray about it.

Pastor Dan



Faith on Fire would like to welcome our new Confirmands on Wednesday May 21st from 7-9pm. Students, join us for a Bonfire, drinks, hotdogs, and s'mores. All students in grades 8-12 are welcome to attend. Don't forget your lawn chairs!



Do you like or love to read? If so, we have an opportunity for you. Anyone wanting to join the Book Club, we meet the third Thursday of the month at people's homes at 6:00 pm. Contact Stephanie Mittnacht at 920-652-8957 for more information.

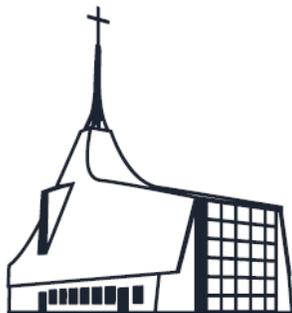
Senior Christians will meet Tuesday, May 20 at 9:00 a.m. at Ethel's in Brillion. All seniors are welcome to attend. Give Joy Madson a call at 920-758-3442 and she will reserve your seat.

May Stewardship — Personal Care Kits

- 1 light weight bath towel (52 x 27) (dark colors)
- 3 bath sized bars of soap (4-5oz.) any brand in original wrapping
- 1 sturdy comb (no picks or fine tooth)
- 1 metal nail clipper
- 1 adult size single toothbrush in original package

Please place your items in the stewardship cabinet across from the church office.

Check out our new Faith Lutheran apparel that is available. There will be 2 options for logo wear to pick from with 18 different types of apparel with different color options. The Lakeshore Screen Printing Webstore is providing us with these options and can be found at <https://lakeshorescreenprinting.com/>. Go to their website, find the link for Faith Lutheran and place your order. The store will be open for 6 months. Orders will be completed as they receive them and can be picked up at church when they are complete. If you do not have internet access and would like to purchase apparel, Julie Hartman or the church office is available to help you and prepayment must be made before ordering. For more information, please talk with Julie Hartman or give her a call at 920-758-2317.



175TH ANNIVERSARY



175TH ANNIVERSARY

Finances

Income - March 2025

		Budget	YTD Actual	YTD Budget
Envelope Offerings	\$ 25,741.50	\$ 21,366.83	\$ 66,015.50	\$ 64,100.50
Lent, Holiday Offerings	\$ 2,871.00	\$ 833.33	\$ 2,871.00	\$ 2,500.00
Loose Offerings	\$ 123.00	\$ 166.67	\$ 390.30	\$ 500.00
Other Income	\$ 275.00	\$ 175.00	\$ 861.00	\$ 525.00
General Fund Income	\$ 29,010.50	\$ 22,541.83	\$ 70,137.80	\$ 67,625.50

Operating Expenses - March 2025

Administrative/Office Expense	\$ 940.39	\$ 1,287.50	\$ 4,254.95	\$ 3,862.50
Benevolence	\$ 2,324.75	\$ 1,803.35	\$ 5,603.95	\$ 5,410.04
Board Expense (Total from all 7 Boards)	\$ 2,651.89	\$ 6,893.33	\$ 28,889.42	\$ 6,893.33
Miscellaneous Expense	\$ (38.25)	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
Personnel Salaries/Benefits ¹	\$ 20,036.48	\$ 20,599.89	\$ 60,619.13	\$ 61,799.68
General Fund Expense	\$ 25,915.26	\$ 30,584.07	\$ 99,367.45	\$ 77,965.55

GENERAL FUND NET INCOME/LOSS	\$3,095.24	(\$8,042.24)	(\$29,229.65)	(\$10,340.05)
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Year to Date General Fund Net Income: (\$29,299.65)



QR Code Giving: Just use your smart phone's QR Code Reader and scan this QR Code to begin your generosity giving! You can set it up to give your gift for a One-Time gift or you can set up a recurring gift (Every Week, Every Two Weeks, Twice a Month (1st & 15th), Monthly, Quarterly, or Annually). You can have your gift taken directly from your bank account or you can give with either your debit or credit card. You can pick the day you want your gift to be given. With this way of giving, you can also give to the General Offering, Church Property, World Hunger, and Lent/Holiday gifts. To view the different giving opportunities: When you first enter the app just scroll down to the line that says "View more giving opportunities" below the "Add to Basket" highlighted line.

Liturgical Roles ~ Worship Responsibilities

Membership

Baptized	818
Confirmed.....	553
Families.....	106

Worship Attendance

	Sunday	Wednesday
3/9	90	80
3/16	92	61
3/23	107	84
3/30	106	53

Altar Guild Servers

Communion:

May **Bev Torrison, Chair (Committee #2)**
 June **Marlene Evenson, Chair (Committee #1)**

Lectors

5/4	Bob Wigen
5/7	Cambria Behnke
5/11	Grace Sorenson
5/14	Susan Christel
5/18	Grace Sorenson
5/21	Noah Boll
5/25	Cheryl Domrath
5/28	Noah Boll

Communion Servers

5/4	Cheryl Domrath
5/14	Susan Christel
5/18	Jennifer Zutz
5/28	Terry Haupt

Head Ushers Matt Krogh and Paul Franz

Acolyte Schedule

5/4	Phoebe Cigler
5/7	Skyler Schuler
5/11	Sage Trepasso
5/14	Ariana Herrick
5/18	Eliza Wilker
5/21	Allison Goehring
5/25	Allison Goehring
5/28	Garrett Jeske

Greeters

5/4	Ethan Spindler
5/7	Peytyn Peterson
5/11	Grace Sorenson
5/14	Allison Goehring
5/18	Grace Sorenson
5/21	Noah Boll
5/25	Cheryl Domrath
5/28	Noah Boll

Ushers

5/4	Austin McCulley, Stetson McCulley, Ethan Ulness
5/11	Jim Ahrens, Bonnie Gordon, Lori Propson
5/18	Ron and Kaye Jandrey, John Robley
5/25	Richard Menza and Joan Pritzl

Sound Operator

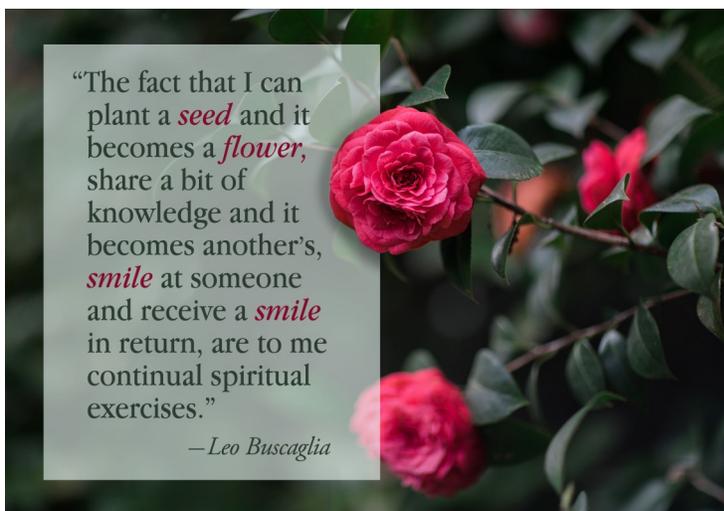
5/4	Loren Ulness
5/11	Carter Lenzner
5/18	Loren Ulness
5/25	Erin Lenzner

Video Operator/Live Stream

5/4	Bill Riesterer
5/11	Carter Lenzner
5/18	Carter Kuentler
5/25	Carter Kuentler

Projection

5/4	Loren Ulness
5/7	Mikaela Spindler
5/11	Carter Lenzner
5/14	Trevor Pinkerton and Kayla Hildebrandt
5/18	Judy Harris
5/21	Mikaela Spindler
5/25	Erin Lenzner
5/28	Mikaela Spindler



“The fact that I can plant a *seed* and it becomes a *flower*, share a bit of knowledge and it becomes another’s, *smile* at someone and receive a *smile* in return, are to me continual spiritual exercises.”

—Leo Buscaglia

Congregation Beth El visit

On Saturday April 5th, our 9th grade Confirmation Students, Mentors and members of Faith, led by Pastor Dan, visited Congregation Beth El, Sheboygan, to attend their Shabbat Service, enjoy “Kiddush” and learn about Judaism.

Upon arrival, the Synagogues Religious Educator, Deborah Intravaia, explained that two books are used in worship The “Seder”, prayer book, and Torah, the first five books of our Old Testament, known as the Tanakh. Those books are in both English and Hebrew, read from right to left and begin at what we consider the end of the book!

The Cantor led the service, opening with a welcome and recognition of their friends at Faith Lutheran Church. Components of their Sabbath worship are like ours in that they offer praise and gratitude to God for all His blessings and ask for things like good health for congregants and His protection; and Prayers in remembrance are offered for all their members that have passed.

After service, we enjoyed Fellowship consisting of the blessing and breaking of the Challah bread, refreshments and meeting new friends!

We enjoyed a light lunch, “Kiddush”, of Kosher chili, fruit and desserts before returning to the Sanctuary where Ms. I took apart a Torah scroll and explained the significance of each component and told us that it takes one scribe at least a year to flawlessly hand print the first five books of the Old Testament, the inspired word of God as recorded by Moses! Any questions that we may have had about Judaism were addressed by Ms. Intravaia.

We learned that antisemitism, hatred of the Hebrews, has been with us a very long time, is senseless, dangerous and is increasing.... Violent crimes against Jews and their places of worship have increased over 360% in recent years!

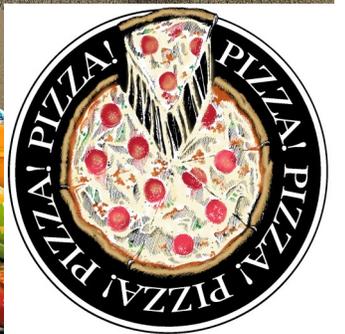
We enjoyed a wonderful day experiencing their worship service, food, and fellowship!



Pictured: Al Gilbertson, Deborah Intravaia, Alexandra Trepasso, Kolten Schisel, Logan Bratt and Sage Trepasso.



The Board of Youth and Family hosted a game night in March with all ages attending. We had pizza, played board games and had a great night of fellowship.



Faith Lutheran Church Minutes—March 17, 2025

Housekeeping Items: Larry noted that some church doors have been found unlocked after evening events. He asked that the last person out after an event or anyone who comes in during the week makes sure the doors are locked properly.

Old Business: Onkka Bench-The bench has not been ordered yet but should be this spring. Pastor suggested the bench be placed on a concrete pad, and Loren said he would take care of that. Consensus is to place the bench near the new playground in the shade.

New Business:

- a. Logo apparel update: Julie noted that Lakeshore Screen Printing has designed apparel items with the church logo and could add a 175th anniversary logo for about \$60. She will get more information. There will be many options for people to choose from and they will be able to order online. Julie said she is willing to pick up orders weekly and can help people who may have difficulty with online ordering.
- b. East Central Synod Assembly is planned for June 7 at Calvary Lutheran in Green Bay. It is a day of religious planning and discussions. Larry would like at least one person from Faith to attend and the parish will pay the \$80 fee. Pastor noted that it's a one-day event at a church this year. Includes music, reports about synod and how money is spent and what churches are doing. The theme is *To Serve All People Following the Example of Jesus*. Pastor is going and would like two more to join.
- c. Church Security: Bill Riesterer. It appears that doors are always secured on Sundays after worship services, but when there are other events, it's sometimes left open. He said when locking the north door, the inside door must be locked, too, to prevent access to the rest of the building in case someone did get in. Bill stressed that the last one out should lock the doors.
- d. Cameras: Bill also noted that two exterior doors at the Fellowship Hall don't have security cameras and there is another blind spot on the property. He requested that cameras be installed in the Fellowship Hall area and gathering area upstairs. We will need to spend \$1,200 because the router storage capacity will need to be expanded. Larry said the church can afford the cost using undesignated funds. Motion made and carried to add two more cameras and more storage space.
- e. Telephone system update: TDS will install a new modem, install the system and train the staff. The existing price quote didn't include an emergency phone in the elevator or a phone for Ken's desk in the maintenance room, which the council wants to see added. Bill noted that the fire alarm system is on cellular system now due to alarms going off too much when communication errors happened.
- f. Livestreaming: Bill said the livestreaming quality is poor and washed out because of the old cameras. The system is 15 years old and will need to be upgraded to continue doing the livestreams of the services, which do get viewers from across the area. He said we would probably need to raise money to pay for it because it will be expensive to move from analog equipment to digital. Currently, only Sunday services are livestreamed.
- g. Loose Change Collection Request-Bridget: Board of Christian Education wants to have Palm Sunday and Mother's Day offerings to raise money to buy more risers that cost \$650. Motion made and carried to allow the collection.
- h. 175th Anniversary Celebration of the three churches that became Faith Lutheran and also First Lutheran. Larry and Pastor Dan met with people from First Lutheran to discuss it. First Lutheran will have an event in May and on Oct. 12 there will be a combined event at the Franciscan Center. Pastor said the bishop will speak and plans are coming along well. Larry noted that Faith is asked to be involved with music and suggested the choir and maybe a children's choir. We are also asked to provide desserts. Pastor feels Faith should have its own event in the spring and suggested an ice cream social in late May or June.

Council representative reports:

- a. Treasurer's Report—Bob said giving was down in February due to a snowstorm that caused low attendance. He presented his written report.
- b. Lay Ministry-Jennifer said they need people for veiling the Cross on Good Friday and unveiling at the Sunrise service on Easter morning. She asked for confirmation students to help veil at 6:15 p.m. on Good Friday and unveil at 7 a.m. on Easter Sunday, with practice on Maundy Thursday.
- c. Evangelism-Julie noted that Holy Week postcards will go out soon. They still need a director for the board.
- d. Fellowship-Marilyn said the first Lenten soup and sandwich supper went well with about 30 people attending and thanked all the hosts, noting that all dates are filled. A Thrivent card was received to pay for the food and the offerings collected will go to the Haven, Warming House and Hope House. A new 55-cup coffee maker is needed to replace one that stopped working. It is used for funeral dinners. A dishwasher valve was needed and someone should confirm it was installed. She also said there were water spots on tiles in the gathering area. Loren will check those items. Last year, the council discussed getting an AED for Fellowship Hall. Bill said a grant application was not approved because we already have one in the building downstairs. Marilyn said that during a funeral with a larger crowd, we need another one upstairs. Bridget will look into other grants.
- e. Church Properties-Loren noted an issue with mildew on the stone exterior wall. He planned to do a test spot to see about cleaning it, and if it works will do the whole area with a lift. Julie volunteered to do some window cleaning.
- f. Christian Education-The board will do an egg hunt on Palm Sunday and have a person from Crossways Camps speak on April 6. She said that for this year's VBS family night they are looking into renting the aquatic center in Manitowoc. The registration table for VBS will be set up by April 20 and volunteers are needed. Plans are made to attend the synagogue in Sheboygan on April 5 with confirmation class and anyone else who is interested. Bridget noted that a few confirmation students were struggling to finish the requirements, and she has been working with them and their mentors.
- g. Youth & Family Ministry: Bridget: Faith on Fire will watch an episode of The Chosen on April 9 and go bowling on April 29.

Adjourned with the Lord's Prayer at 7:55 p.m. Next Meeting – April 21, 2025 ----- Devotions –Al Gilbertson

--Submitted by: Mary Thomsen, secretary

Celebrating Your Birthday!

MAY

- Joan Pritzl
Emma Karstaedt
- Terra Peterson
Austin McCulley
Donald Schisel
Nicole Spindler
- Kim Tan
Stacy Olm
Eric Haupt
Walker Ulness
Dominic Hernandez
- Lori Bruckner
Rachel Robley
- Ella Hammel
Brenda Johnson
Jared Petska
Benjamin Kalies
- Lexie Evenson
Peter Scharenbroch
- Richard Schaeuble
- Daniel Esser
Timothy Brick
- Mardell Huske
Marilyn Robley
Robert Voss
- Erik Gordon
- Leonard Reinertson
David Linzmeier
- Pam Brick
Brenda Olson
Wylder Fochs
- Jennifer Junk
Sandy Halverson
- Vicki Wetenkamp
Ellen Polifka
Jennifer Ott
Michael Wenzel
Charlie Saunders
- Bertha Kulnick
Romelle Rusch
James Pederson
Thomas Rutherford
Joshua Olson
Patrick Mulhaney
- Ty Lippert
- Everett Galien
- Doris Olson
Colten Fuller
- Kenneth O'Leary
Aliza Sabourin
Judy Valleskey
- Scott Reinertson
- Jill Wittmus
Noah Boll

JUNE

- James Schuessler
- Kevin Madson
Baylor Fochs
- Glenn Otto
Don Domrath
- John Thompson
Stacy Wilker
Logan Bratt
- John Polifka
Audrey Sorenson
Camden Duchow
- Virginia Meyer
Rebecca Schultz
Shawnae Galien
- Andrew Schnell
- Conrad Evenson
Wanda Neumeyer
Dylan Conrad
Kyle Conrad
- Jill Franz
Mikaela Spindler
Mary Siewert
- Ashlin Hill
- Bryant Schwoerer
- Tim Endries
- Brian Olson
Isaac Boll
- Lucille Rutherford
Matthew Sorenson
John Schnell
Carter Valleskey
- Trevor McCulley
Daniel Whitehouse
Kace Goehring
Amber Kwasny



Choir Schedule
5/11 Sunday School Choir and Bell Choir
5/18 Inspiration Choir

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
				1 8:00 Quilting 5:30 Jazzercise	2	3 Donald Sebo funeral 9:00-10:45 visitation 11:00 funeral
4 8:00 Bell Choir 9:00 Worship 10:00 Sunday School, Fellowship Hour, Board of Youth 10:15 Inspiration Choir, 9th grade confirmation	5 9:00 Women's Bible Study 5:30 Jazzercise 6:00 Boards of Lay Ministry and Evangelism	6 3:00 and 6:00 Bible Study	7 9:00 Jazzercise 6:15 Worship 7:00 Confirmation Party	8 8:00 Quilting 8:30 Secretary's Meeting 5:30 Jazzercise	9	10 9:00 2nd Saturday Bible Study
11 8:00 Bell Choir 9:00 Worship Baptism—Olivia Lynn Glaeser 10:00 Fellowship Hour 10:15 Inspiration Choir <i>Mother's Day</i>	12 9:00 Women's Bible Study 5:30 Jazzercise	13 3:00 and 6:00 Bible Study	14 9:00 Jazzercise 6:15 Worship	15 8:00 Quilting 5:30 Jazzercise Newsletter info due	16	17 9:00 Open Pantry
18 8:00 Inspiration Choir 9:00 Worship 10:00 Fellowship Hour 	19 9:00 Women's Bible Study 5:30 Board of Stewardship 5:30 Jazzercise 6:30 Council	20 9:00 Senior Christians at Ethel's in Brillion 3:00 and 6:00 Bible Study (last one until Sept.)	21 9:00 Jazzercise 6:15 Worship 7:00-9:00 Faith on Fire event	22 8:00 Quilting 5:30 Jazzercise	23	24
25 9:00 Worship 10:00 Fellowship Hour	26 Office Closed 	27	28 9:00 Jazzercise 6:15 Worship	29 8:00 Quilting 5:30 Jazzercise	30	31

FAITH LUTHERAN CHURCH
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PO Box 369
Valders, WI 54245-0369

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STANDARD (A)



Alcoholics Anonymous
Meets at 6:00 p.m. Mondays
St. Gregory's School, 212 Church Street, St. Nazianz

Al Anon
Meets at 7:00 p.m. Mondays
404 S. 29th Street, Manitowoc
and
Saturdays at 9:00 a.m.
443 Manhattan Street, Chilton