

FAITH LUTHERAN CHURCH

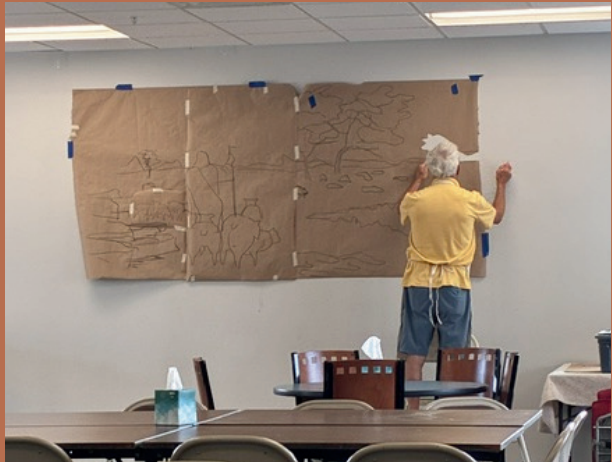
Faith Matters

September 2026

920.775.4141

Valders WI

www.faithlutheranchurchvalders.org



Come and see our new artwork in the gathering space.
Thank you to Randy Detgen for his beautiful artwork.

Message by President Alan Gilbertson, Vice President Julie Hartman, and Vice President-Elect James Schuessler.

Faith Matters is more than the name of our newsletter. It reflects our belief that a faith-centered life is rooted in a deep, personal relationship with Christ, grounded in the gospel, and lived out through community, service, and transformation.

At its core, faith is not only belief; it is a transformative force. Faith serves as a compass through life's challenges, offering strength, hope, and belonging. In Christian thought, faith is often like a "North Star," pointing us toward God's love and purpose and sustaining us through doubt, uncertainty, and adversity.

Although the sudden retirement of Pastor Lyman has brought unexpected change, we trust that God is with us now, just as God has been with us through past transitions.

When changes like this happen, it is natural to grieve the loss of a pastoral relationship. We want you to know that congregational leadership had been working with Pastor Lyman for some time. When it became necessary, we contacted the Synod Office and followed a recognized process to address the situation. After conversation with Pastor Lyman and the Personnel Committee on August 1, Pastor Lyman and the committee reached a mutual agreement on a severance package that would allow him to retire. He was appreciative of the severance and chose Sunday, August 2, as his final service. He also selected August 8 as the date for his appreciation party.

We respected his wishes for a quick and clean break. Unfortunately, that timing did not allow everyone to receive the closure they may have needed. If you would like to send Pastor Lyman a card or other correspondence, please feel free to drop it off in the church office, and we will gladly forward it to him. We are grateful for Pastor Lyman's service to our church and wish him the very best in retirement.

While transition is a time of change, it can also become an opportunity for renewal. A wonderful example is the beautiful artwork recently completed on the wall in the gathering space. That change has enhanced the space, adding beauty and dignity to the message that we are called to follow God.

Our leadership team has been in conversation with the Synod and is working to prepare the congregation for calling a new pastor. Pastoral coverage throughout September is already in place, and the Synod has been very supportive of our needs by helping us fill the pulpit with an ordained minister and ensuring that someone is on call for emergencies.

We look toward the fall with great excitement. We have been working diligently to respond to the needs and hopes you shared through the Climate Survey. You may already have noticed several signs of progress:

- Changes to our worship services
- An additional fellowship opportunity through our ice cream social
- Optional wording in the Apostles' Creed: "catholic/Christian"

We are listening to you and doing our best to be responsive. God is hard at work here.

"For I know the plans I have for you," declares the Lord, "plans for welfare and not for evil, to give you a future and a hope." – Jeremiah 29:11

May God continue to bless us richly.

Faith Lutheran is looking ahead with excitement as we work toward a fresh revival of our ministry! We are working hard to create warm, inviting spaces for our children and youth to grow in the Word, spend time with their friends, and be themselves! Consider being a part of this project by purchasing an item off the Amazon Wish list for our Sunday School classrooms &/or our Youth Room. Click on the link or scan the QR code! <https://www.amazon.com/gp/guest-view/2CC2A2L1B5D43...> if you have questions, please reach out to our Youth Coordinator!



Local Disaster Relief for Menasha Storms

Donations will be collected through Sunday, September 20, to support neighbors affected by the storms in the Menasha area. You may give in either of these ways:

- Use the bright green envelope available in the pew's and place it in the offering plate or church office. Use a white pew envelope and mark it "Local Disaster Relief" and place in the offering plate or church office. Thank you for helping our neighbors in need.



God's Work. Our Hands. Update

There will not be a workday this September for God's Work. Our Hands. We look forward to possibly resuming this event next year. Any questions can be directed to Ted Goman.



SEPTEMBER STEWARDSHIP

SOAP AND CLOTH FLAT FOLD DIAPERS/DIAPER PINS

- Please bring in new bars of gentle soap (Dove, Ivory) and place in the Stewardship cabinet across from the church office.
- Please also bring in flat fold cloth diapers. These can be purchased from walmart.com or gerberchildrenswear.com. Most diapers come in a 10 pack. Also 4 large diaper pins per kit are needed. These should also be placed in the Stewardship cabinet.
- Monetary donations can be given to Christine and I can purchase the necessary items for the baby kits.



Apostle's Creed Wording

The Apostle's Creed remains an important part of our worship. At its August 3 meeting, and in response to requests from the congregation, the Board of Lay Ministry voted to allow either wording when reciting the Creed. When saying the line in the Apostle's Creed, worshippers may say either: catholic or Christian.

Please feel free to use the wording that is most meaningful and comfortable for you. This matter has also been discussed with our Synod office, which supports this resolution to this concern.



Senior Christians

Senior Christians will meet Tuesday, September 15 at Fork 'n Knife Restaurant in Manitowoc.

Financial Report

Income - July 2026	Month Actual		Budget		YTD Actual		YTD Budget
Envelope Offerings	\$ 16,568.00		\$ 21,998.75		\$ 158,676.00		\$ 153,991.25
Lent, Holiday Offerings	\$ -		\$ 833.33		\$ 4,693.00		\$ 5,833.33
Loose Offerings	\$ 71.00		\$ 166.67		\$ 815.77		\$ 1,166.67
Room Use - Utility Donations	\$ 335.00		\$ 166.67		\$ 1,145.25		\$ 1,166.67
Other Income	\$ -		\$ -		\$ -		\$ -
General Fund Income	\$ 16,974.00		\$ 23,173.75		\$ 165,330.02		\$ 162,216.25
Operating Expenses - July 2026							
Administrative/Office Expense	\$ 1,338.27		\$ 1,365.00		\$ 12,041.59		\$ 9,555.00
Benevolence	\$ 1,358.22		\$ 1,853.90		\$ 13,225.60		\$ 12,977.30
Board Expense (Total from all 7 Boards)	\$ 4,068.10		\$ 6,576.67		\$ 35,375.51		\$ 46,036.67
Miscellaneous Expense	\$ -		\$ -		\$ -		\$ -
Personnel Salaries/Benefits1	\$ 21,227.21		\$ 21,086.80		\$ 144,474.77		\$ 147,607.57
General Fund Expense	\$ 27,991.80		\$ 30,882.36		\$ 205,117.47		\$ 216,176.54
GENERAL FUND NET INCOME/LOSS	(\$11,017.80)				(\$39,787.45)		
Year to Date General Fund Net Income : (\$11,017.80)							
Income needed per week to meet our 2026 Budget					\$ 7,126.70		
Income needed per month to meet our 2026 Budget					\$ 30,882.36		



WORSHIP RESPONSIBILITIES



Death ~ Virginia Meyer



MEMBERSHIP

Baptized	810	Confirmed	551
Families	99		



WORSHIP ATTENDANCE

	Sunday	Wednesday
7/12	96	36
7/19	69	28
7/26	78	48
8/2	75	35
8/9	66	29



ALTAR GUILD COMMUNION SERVERS

September (Committee #1)

October **Bev Torrison**, Chair (Committee #2)



LECTORS

9/2	Larry Burzynski
9/6	Stefanie Kaderabek
9/9	Don Schreiner
9/13	Joyce Sorenson
9/16	Kerry Schnell
9/20	Judy Harris
9/23	Lynn Burzynski
9/27	Brian Ulness
9/30	Carol Ulness



COMMUNION SERVERS

9/2	Larry Burzynski
9/6	Stefanie Kaderabek
9/16	Kerry Schnell
9/20	Judy Harris



HEAD USHERS

Glenn Otto and Tom Madson



ACOLYTE SCHEDULE

9/6	Skyler Schuler	9/9	Sage Peterson
9/13	Eliza Wilker	9/16	Westen Schisel
9/20	Lauren Halverson	9/23	Dexter Valleskey
9/27	Paden Hougen	9/30	Walker Ulness

GREETERS

9/2	Sherrie Pinkerton
9/6	Pat Christianson
9/9	Don and Deb Schreiner
9/13	Cheryl Domrath
9/16	Jan Behnke
9/20	Ted Goman
9/23	Peytyn Peterson
9/27	Judy Harris
9/30	Judy Valleskey



USHERS

9/6	Austin McCulley, Ethan Ulness, Loren Ulness
9/13	Steve Ahrens, Wayne Huske, Bonnie Gordon
9/20	Mark and Angie Ulness Family
9/27	Brian and Tammy Brill, Marcus Galien



SOUND OPERATOR

9/6	Erin Lenzner
9/13	Loren Ulness
9/20	Stefanie Kaderabek
9/27	Loren Ulness



VIDEO OPERATOR/LIVE STREAM

9/6	Michael Lenzner
9/13	Eric Thomsen
9/20	Jake Kaderabek
9/27	Al Gilbertson



PROJECTION

9/2	Kayla Fochs
9/6	Erin Lenzner
9/9	Cindy Pederson
9/13	Loren Ulness
9/16	John Schnell
9/20	Stefanie Kaderabek
9/23	Susan Christel
9/27	Zachary Lenzner
9/30	Kayla Fochs

EXCLUSIVE MEMBER OFFER:

Save on Life Line Screening



We have great news! Faith Lutheran Church is hosting a Life Line Screening event on **September 29**. Life Line Screening is the premier provider of stroke and cardiovascular disease risk screenings since 1993. Life Line Screening is extending a discounted offer to all Faith members which will identify your risk level for the following diseases:



YOU CAN BE SCREENED FOR:



1.

**Carotid Artery
Disease**



2.

**Peripheral
Arterial Disease**



3.

**Abdominal
Aortic Aneurysm**



4.

**Atrial
Fibrillation**



**Call 800-324-9458 to
schedule your appointment!**

A simple screening can be worth a lifetime.



FAITH LUTHERAN CHURCH





Choirs Begin Soon

Bell Choir

Begins Sunday, September 13, at 8:00 a.m. in the balcony.

Inspiration Choir

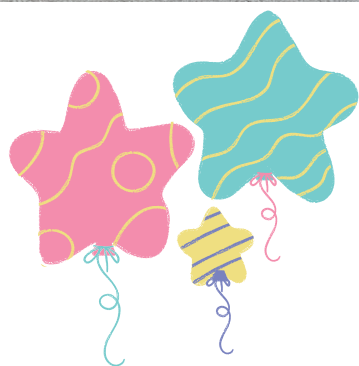
Begins Sunday, September 13, at 10:15 a.m. in the balcony.

Interested in Joining?

If you are interested in joining one or both choirs, please speak with Bonnie Gordon or any current choir member.



PARADE



HAPPY
Retirement!





SEPTEMBER

1. Jeanette Schuessler
2. Karen Voss
3. Gary Heeler
4. Chad Junk
5. Cynthia Kwasny
Caleb Madison
6. Kenneth Popp
Ethan Halverson
7. Mitchell Kaderabek
8. Earl Griffin
9. Lee W. Evenson
Terry Huske
Zachary Lenzner
Laurance Burzynski
10. Autumn Robley
11. Mitchell Zutz
Mark Spindler
13. Timber Schuler
14. Corrine Torrison
Suzanne Riesterer
Samuel Gordon
15. Darlene Colbo
18. Judy Evenson
Kristin Pederson
Geoffrey Valleskey
20. Joyce Sorenson
Makenna Kaderabek
21. Herbert Krueger Sr.
Jackie Shimek
Lynn Burzynski
Steve Kuenstler
22. Thomas Muench
23. Travis Goehring
Michiela Miller
24. Harry Kwasny Jr.
25. Linda Hofner
26. Marlene Kohlmann
Tricia Olson
Taylor Jeske
Kathy Mattern
27. Chad Frank
Kelly Meyer
28. Shelia Kalies
Peter Cigler
29. Theodore Jeske Jr.
Courtney Fahley



OCTOBER



1. Judy Jorgenson
Hannah Evenson
2. Michael Goehring
3. Skyler Schuler
Kevin Schultz
Ted Goman
Jessica Stalvey
4. Linda Berge
Myranda Manke
Connor McDonald
5. Caroline Berge
Michael Propson
6. Jill Meyer-Lippert
Stefanie Kaderabek
7. Harper Frank
9. Gail McCulley
Trevor Griffin
Judith Tracy
10. Evan Brick
Delton Duchow



Council Minutes - July 20, 2026

New Business:

- a. Artwork for east wall in gathering space—Julie showed drawings from an area artist of possible art pieces to be placed on the east wall of the upper level gathering space. She is looking for approval to have it made and already has funding for it. It shows a peaceful scene of Jesus with sheep, and she would like to add a stone wall to represent Valders. It is 3-D, raised plaster. Motion made and carried to approve the purchase and have Julie confer with the artist on details.
 - b. Resignation letter from Sue Riesterer—Sue indicated she is resigning from all church commitments until there is a change in pastors. Recently, there was concern about hymn selection and failure of the pastor to attend meetings with the organists as agreed. Jim and Julie have been in contact with the Synod office so we can address the issues between the pastor and the staff to see if they can be resolved. Devin also submitted a letter saying he doesn't want to continue as organist under the current circumstances. A long discussion was held about this issue, and Pastor Dan said he had no comment to add. More conversation followed about the various relationships the congregation has had with pastors and interim pastors over the years. Further discussion was held about the condition of the congregation financially and in other ways. Pastor Dan noted that fewer pastors are coming through seminaries and more churches need pastors.
-

Old Business:

- a. Climate Survey—Jim asked for feedback from the council and a list of some priorities. Discussion was held about the varying opinions expressed in the survey and it was noted that it showed the community events and connections are important to people. It was stressed that we need to build relationships within the congregation and then begin to invite new people in once members are feeling better about the church. Bridget and the Board of Christian Education are working on doing something for the Sunday school families to build relationships starting early in the school year. It was expressed that the survey had many comments about politics, and people don't like politics in church, and we are losing families because we are conservative here. More discussion centered on outreach and other ideas.
 - b. Fall Festival—Joan noted that Oct. 18 is the tentative date. She gave council members written information with some of the plans and ideas for the festival. It was agreed to invite the public and advertise the event. Motion made and carried to approve a fall festival on Oct. 18. Motion made and carried to approve a 50/50 raffle at the festival.
-

Council representative reports

- a. Treasurer's Report—A written report was presented that shows a net income of \$4,076 in June with a weekly average of 11% attendance.
 - b. Stewardship—Joan: Stewardship drive in October may be changed due to the fall festival being in October. The theme for the drive will be "Journey to Generosity, the Way of Jesus." It will run through Nov. 15, when we take pledges. Motion made and carried to change the date of the drive to start after the festival and finish on Nov. 15.
 - c. Evangelism—Parade plans are finalized with a rainforest theme.
 - d. Fellowship—There will be no fellowship hour on Aug. 2 due to the pie and ice cream social at the community picnic.
 - e. Church Properties—The elevator maintenance schedule suggests a hydraulic oil change, but the cost is high and the need is minor, so we won't do that.
 - f. Christian Education—The Sunday school will do church offerings with the students this year. They will be raising money for an accessible swing at the playground for Zoey Zutz. "Lift Zoey Higher" is the theme. Addressing survey comments about the children singing in church, it was decided they will sing four times a year: in the fall with the adult choir, at the Christmas program, on Palm Sunday and on Mother's Day. Bridget presented her vision for redecorating the Community Room to use as the youth room, using money from the youth budget. Motion made and carried to allow the changes to the Community Room.
 - g. Personnel Committee—Julie said they have been working on job reviews, but that is stalled due to the current personnel situation. Discussed how to communicate the current absence of the organists.
-

Adjourned with the Lord's Prayer at 8:47 p.m. **Next Meeting** – August 17/Devotions by Al

–Submitted by Mary Thomsen, secretary

SEPTEMBER

Sun

Mon

Tue

Wed

Thu

Fri

Sat

		1	2 9:00 Jazzercise 6:15 Worship with Holy Communion	3 8:00 Quilting	4	5
6 9:00 Worship with Holy Communion 10:00 Fellowship Hour	7 Office Closed ~ Labor Day 6:00 Board of Lay Ministry	8 2:00-6:00 Blood Drive in fellowship hall 	9 9:00 Jazzercise 6:15 Worship	10 8:00 Quilting	11 	12 9:00 2 nd Sat. Bible Study 1:30 Cassandra Zutz & Elijah Tuesburg Wedding
13 8:00 Bell Choir 9:00 Worship ~ Bible distribution 10:00 Fellowship Hour 10:15 Inspiration Choir	14 9:00 Women's Bible Study	15	16 9:00 Jazzercise 5:45 Confirmation parent/student meeting 6:15 Worship with Holy Communion 7:15 Confirmation	17 8:00 Quilting	18	19 9:00-10:00 Open Pantry
20 8:00 Bell Choir 9:00 Worship ~ Blessings of Backpacks 10:00 Sunday school and Fellowship Hour 10:15 Inspiration Choir	21 9:00 Women's Bible Study 5:30 Board of Stewardship 6:30 Council	22 9:00 Senior Christians at Fork 'n Knife	23 9:00 Jazzercise 6:15 Worship 7:15 Confirmation	24 8:00 Quilting 8:30 Secretary's Meeting	25	26
27 8:00 Bell Choir 9:00 Worship 10:00 Sunday school and Fellowship Hour 10:15 Inspiration Choir	28 9:00 Women's Bible Study	29 8:00-5:30 Lifeline Screening in fellowship hall	30 9:00 Jazzercise 6:15 Worship 7:15 Confirmation			

Faith Lutheran Church
255 Roosevelt Street
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Valders, WI 54245-0369
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Worship times

Sundays— 9:00 A.M.
Wednesdays — 6:15 p.m.

Church Office

255 Roosevelt Street
PO Box 369
Valders, Wisconsin 54245
Phone 920-775-4141
Website: www.faithlutheranchurchvalders.org

Staff Directory

Christine Olson, Administrative Assistant
Email: faith21@tds.net
Bridget Valleskey, Youth Coordinator
Email: valleskeyb@gmail.com
Jill Wittmus, Bookkeeper
Rose Behnke, Custodian
Tony Schad, Custodian & Lawn Cutter
Sue Riesterer, Whitney
Schamburek, Devin Zahringer Organists

FLC President: Alan Gilbertson
FLC Vice Pres: Julie Hartman
FLC VP Elect: James Schuessler
Secretary: Mary Thomsen
Treasurer: Theresa Haupt

**Dear God, as we step into
September, we thank you for a
new season and fresh starts.
Guide our steps through the
shifting weather and changing
routines. Bless our homes with
love, peace, and unity. Give us
strength for our daily work and
hope for the days ahead. Amen.**