



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

FAITH'S FOUNDATIONS

June 2020

Working to spread the Gospel here and throughout the world.

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<http://faithlutheran-threelakes.org> · <https://facebook.com/faith3lakes> · office6995@gmail.com
Office Hours: Tuesday through Thursday 9:00 am to 12:00 pm

NOTE FROM PASTOR JOHN

Any thoughts of a normal and carefree summer must be changed because of the continued dangers of the Corona Virus pandemic. I have ten pounds of hot dogs and brats from Nueske's in the freezer thinking of a summer-style picnic time for fellowship. That plan is now scrapped. I had thought about planning for the 2021 Youth Gathering in Minneapolis. Registration begins in September so I need to get kids to commit to going and fund-raising events planned. But now that is on hold since it is uncertain when regular, in-person worship services will resume.

We haven't met for what I could call normal worship since the Second Sunday in Lent in early March. Now as restrictions for gathering across the board are being lifted people have wondered when regular worship services will start. The news reports that the number of new infections in the country is lessening but still we must be cautious. The death toll continues to rise and may reach 100,000 deaths due to the virus in June. At the time of this writing the Pioneer Lake Council will meet on Thursday to discuss how to move forward. The Faith Lutheran Council in Three Lakes has already

met and their advice is to be careful about resuming worship too soon. As summer tourists and seasonal

residents return we wonder if the number of Covid-19 cases will rise in our counties due to community spread.

The Evangelical Lutheran Church in America has given guidelines for churches and plans for resumption of regular worship. I should say regular worship as we understand it will change for a time, probably until a safe and effective vaccine is approved. Worship in the time of virus-threat will mean face masks to be worn. If worshipers do not have one the church should be ready to provide masks. Social distancing will still be practiced. At first gatherings should not exceed ten people; later the number may grow to a maximum of fifty. Even small congregations can be challenged by such small numbers necessitating plans for more opportunities to gather for worship.

The ELCA recommends no singing in the pre-vaccine time. We have learned how the virus spreads through exhalation and singing is especially forceful in the spread of molecules. Churches will have to be content with recorded music, instrumentals, or soloists. It is recommended as well that sanctuaries be thoroughly cleaned and disinfected and that all hymnals and envelopes in the pews be removed. There will be no touching such as sharing the peace

or even the passing of the offering plates. There is also concern about Holy Communion: some suggest suspending the distribution for a time. If Holy Communion is offered, extra precautions are necessary for the handling of the bread and wine. Of special concern for us at Faith and Pioneer Lake is that people over the age of sixty should remain at home because of vulnerability to severe illness due to age or weakened immune systems. As you know the majority of worshipers are over the age of sixty. If some kind of in person worship continues, curtailed as it would be, it is still recommended to offer online opportunities like posting sermons.

So as you can see the return to worship services is a decision that must be carefully considered. The threat of the covid-19 virus must not be treated in a casual way. The virus is a vicious killer and seems to be especially virulent causing us not to claim the false security of safety because we live in the "Northwoods." Don't be taken in by those who cry foul over restrictions claiming their constitutional rights are being violated. A recent editorial in the News Review said freedom does not mean 'license' meaning it is not my right to do whatever I want while endangering others. Practice social responsibility. Wear a mask. Listen to the medical professionals. Be especially concerned for the most vulnerable in our midst.

Do not forget to feed your faith with the health food of Scripture. Lately the gospel readings for the Sundays in Easter have been especially appropriate for our times. One Sunday we heard Jesus tell his followers "Let not your hearts be troubled. Believe in God, believe also in me. In my Father's House are many dwelling places. If it were not so, would I have told you that I go to prepare a place for you? And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again and will take you to myself, so that where I am you may be also." Such words of comfort and grace! Jesus is not asking the impossible by saying 'do not have troubles but just think positively in this time of pandemic.' Jesus is reaching out with the promise of his faithfulness. Trust Jesus to be with you. Trust Jesus to calm you. Trust Jesus to never forsake you even if it should be the dark valley of the shadow of death. Jesus has made a place for us in the Father's House. This is not only a future reference of heaven, but the good news that we dwell in the Father's House of goodness and mercy today and every day.

In another Easter reading Jesus said "I will not leave you orphaned; I am coming to you...because I live you too shall live." In this time of pandemic problems, a virulent virus, and fear of the future Jesus did not say "Good Luck". He made is so clear: you will not be abandoned. You will not be left alone. I am coming to you. Then Jesus promised the Advocate, the Spirit of Truth, the Holy Spirit. Martin Luther liked to call the Holy Spirit our teacher because Jesus would say of the Holy Spirit, "The Advocate, the Holy Spirit, whom the Father will send in my name, will teach you everything, and remind you of all that I have said to you." What will the Holy Spirit teach, most of all the presence and peace of Jesus. In the very next verse Jesus said "Peace I leave with you; my peace I give to you. I do not give to you as the world gives. Do not let your hearts be troubled, and do not let them be afraid." In the Bible peace does not mean a lack of problems or pandemics. The peace Jesus gives means he will accompany us through such hard times. Let us allow his faithfulness to shore up our faith, hope, and love.

We are asked to wear masks to help 'mitigate' or lessen the possible spread of disease. A good friend of mine made me three masks. She found material with Bible verses so I have one mask that says "Nothing will be impossible with God", another which quotes Jesus, "I am the Way, and the Truth and the Life. No one comes to the Father except through me." Another says "Love the Lord your God with all your heart, soul, mind, and strength and love your neighbor as you love yourself." I love it! I can wear a mask with the promises of Scripture which can mitigate the loss of hope. With the promises of Jesus, his peace and his presence and his promise of never leaving us orphaned, may we be both strengthened and guided to show care for one another. Remember also the promise of the gift of the Holy Spirit, the Advocate, also called the Helper and the Comforter. As the Apostle Paul would say we are not slaves to fear since the Holy Spirit creates and renews faith by teaching us Jesus and ever reminding us that we are the precious, beloved children of God.

ANNOUNCEMENTS



MONTHLY NEWSLETTERS

Newsletters are now available online! If you would like to receive a paper copy, please sign up on the sheet outside of the office. Newsletters can be found at <https://www.faithlutheran-threelakes.org/newsletters> or right on the front page of the website.

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.



PRAYER SHAWLS

To give comfort and peace. There is a tote of prayer shawls under the shelf when you walk in. If you know someone who is lonely and would use one, feel free to take one. Once wrapped around their shoulders it feels like a hug from Jesus and their friends.

FELLOWSHIP

During Fellowship a basket is placed on the table to collect donations for the purchase of the Fair Trade decaf coffee. Individuals or groups who host Fellowship do not have to provide coffee. Occasional contributions to the fun are encouraged.

QUILTERS

We appreciate all of the quilting supplies which have been donated. We could use some help putting the quilts together. Quilting experience is not required.

The quilters meet every Wednesday from 12:30pm to 3:00 pm

LIVE-STREAMING

Did you know that when you're away, you can watch Pastor's sermon 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 at the reading of the Gospel, which usually happens between 9:10 and 9:15, 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 Pastor's sermons on our website. Simply go to our church website, and go to "Worship" --> "Pastor's Sermons" and click on any sermon in the Archive of Recorded Sermons. It's that easy!

ORGANIST OR PIANIST NEEDED to fill in occasionally for Sunday services. If you or someone you know are interested, please contact Rhonda Buss at 715-223-5323 or rhonda_buss@yahoo.com

BAPTISMS WE REMEMBER THIS MONTH



As the weather warms, we become aware of the gift of new life all around us. The birds, the trees, the flowers, and even the dreaded mosquitoes!

Yet the gift of life we most cherish is the new life we share in Christ Jesus Our Lord. Through our baptism, we have been made recipients of this new life, a life we embrace in faith.

During the month of June, live out your baptism as the Holy Spirit stirs within you. Keep in your prayers those who celebrate the anniversary of their baptism this month!

- 7th Trudy Klauk
- 13th Margaret Ledbetter
- 23rd Nathan Madl
- 28th Val Otto and Bo Bisnette
- 29th Kim Peterson
- 30th Matt Wilkowski

Also remember: Jan Harris.

OFFERING AND ATTENDANCE

Year: 2020

Month: March

Number of Sundays: 4

Average Attendance: 29

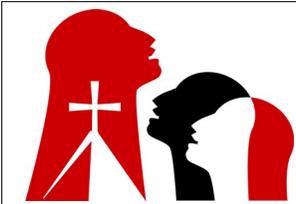
Month: April

Number of Sundays: 4, 0 due to COVID-19

Average Attendance: —

<i>April 2020</i>	MONTH	YTD
Budget Income	\$3,714	\$69,565
Expenses	\$2,812	\$44,081
Net Income	\$901	\$25,484

*** This will be provided on a quarterly basis



IN OUR THOUGHTS AND PRAYERS

THOSE STRUGGLING WITH ILLNESS, PAIN, LOSS OF HEALTH IN MIND, BODY, AND SPIRIT: Colleen and Duane Bonack, Gale and Martha Crow, Natalie Gerharz, Kristin Rolls, Kyle Smith, Paul Kragh, Monte James, Missy Wick, Wayne Schuelke, Sue Sorg, Kristine Gerhart, Rick Jacobson, Ollie DeMuth, Megan Schiller, Barb Hanson, Bob Beyer, Kim Terlizzi, Ed Fowles, Hunter St. Louis. Charlotte Jensen, John and Connie Lyons, Tiffany and Greg Lyons, Peter Santogade, Ann Woelfel, Bill Mattson, Tom and Doe Muench, Scott Otto and Bob Dumke.

Our home-bound including:
Norm Frauenfelder

Our armed forces including:
David Bredesen, Kaley Ebann, Tyler Kaltenberg, Nick, Brandy, Nathan Lamal, Jamie Madl, Jared Malda, Jon Priem, Brandon Paulick, Charlie and Will Starke, Nicole Young and Alex Brendemihl.

ALL THOSE WHO ARE ANXIOUS AND WORRIED ABOUT MANY THINGS

Our Church Ministries:

Congregational Care
Congregation Council
Board of Worship Life
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
Union Congregational 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.



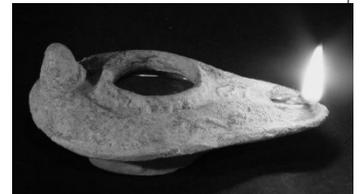
Dear Friends in Christ,

For several summers when I was growing up, my father would join an archaeological expedition to the Holy Land, Caesarea to be exact. For six weeks, he would dig through the dirt of ancient homes, roads, and towns, looking for artifacts and some sense of the world that people lived in so many years ago.

Volunteers were assigned to different archaeological groups who were sent to different sites or “digs”. One group found a beautiful mosaic which led to the discovery of a seaside villa. They were the envy of the other groups; one who had found a rather boring wall, and another who found an even more boring road - Still significant discoveries, but not nearly as exciting as a villa full of colorful mosaics.

It was a common occurrence, as the dirt was gathered and sifted, to find small pieces of pottery, broken ancient glass, and pot handles. And invariably even the most novice archaeologist would find large pieces of oil lamps or the lucky find of a lamp that was entirely intact.

Oil lamps and their pieces were common as they were a staple for any ancient household just as a flashlight is today. Every home had lamps readily available for any member of the family that needed to walk a small distance in the dark. The small clay lamp fit easily in the palm of the hand, with a small bowl to hold the oil and a smaller opening at one end to hold the wick for burning. And this hand-held lamp would give off just enough light for the person holding it to take one more step. The light from this small clay bowl would not illuminate the whole path. But it would ensure that your next step would be safe as you would be able to see any immediate hazards, holes, uneven ground, or danger.



In Psalm 119:105, we read, “Your word is a lamp to my feet and a light to my path.” Through the open tomb of Easter, a believer in Christ will hear Jesus in these ancient words.

In December of 2019, I wrote a letter to NGLS congregations on the eve of 2020, declaring that our theme for the coming year was “Be Thou My Vision, 2020.” I shared that “the Word of God, that is, the word made flesh in Jesus, is the light that will show us our next steps, one step at a time. We will not, cannot, see the entirety of our future. But digging into the life of Christ in study, prayer, conversation, and worship will most certainly shine a light.”

At the time, I had no idea just how much this would prove true for the year 2020. It is more than a little ironic, that a year that is synonymous with perfect vision would be so severely lacking in it. In this time of pandemic, we cannot even see to next week, much less next month or further down the road. Our sight is very much limited to the here and now. We have what we need for the next step, not the whole journey.

We have suddenly become very present minded. Life has been boiled down to this day (and what day is it anyway?) or at the most, this week. The things I had been looking forward to and planning for have either been canceled or postponed. Even events scheduled for September and October are subject to change. I didn’t realize how much looking forward to things actually pulls a person forward. The

rhythms of each day seem to lack momentum or a gathering sense of purpose. And yet, if we saw what the next weeks and months will bring, would it be too much? Aren't today's troubles enough for today?

As the year 2020 continues in all its foggy blurriness, there is blessing in only considering the path that is directly beneath your feet. I invite you to take this slow motion marathon one small step at a time. Let love, patience, and compassion be your guide. We are moving forward, and slowly, slowly, the hazy future will come into focus until the now is in hindsight, and we will see clearly that God has been with us all along.

Be well.

Bishop Katherine Finegan

From the president...

We have no news on the call of a pastor.

We are staying afloat with the few contributions that are coming in.

We gave \$500 of our rental income to Caritas, since they are seeing many new clients and need to replenish their supplies.

At the moment, May 20th, we have no plans to reopen soon. We will let you know by way of MailChimp as soon as we make a decision. If you have not signed up for MailChimp, contact MaryBeth in the office.

We have quotes for driveway renewal and will be discussing the options at our next council meeting.

If you are driving around our grounds and see something that needs to be done, please let us know or do it yourself!! Thanks!

Please keep our prayer list in your prayers, as it has grown of late. Thank you to Sue Sorg for keeping us informed. While you're at it, please pray for our country and all those effected by the virus.

Everything is going to be alright!

Marge Anderson





Celebrating 90 Years!

Join us Saturday, August 8 for *One Wonderful Day*, an original musical written by FLLC alumni, performed by Musical Theatre Week campers.

Join the Production

Musical theatre enthusiasts of all ages are invited to fill the roles of cast members, ensemble singers, backstage crew and pit orchestra. If you would like to participate in the production directly, register as a camper for Musical Theatre Week (August 2-8). Discounts are available through April 1.

Join the Audience

See the live performance of *One Wonderful Day* on Saturday, August 8 at 2 pm. CDT at the historic Crystal Theatre in Crystal Falls. A catered buffet dinner will follow at FLLC at 5 pm. Tickets must be purchased in advance. Phone (906) 214-2267 or visit fortunelake.org to buy your tickets today. Seats are limited.

Join as a Congregation

Your congregation is invited to raise funds to purchase an ad in the musical's playbill, which will be seen by hundreds! See the website for details.

Visit www.fortunelake.org

for additional details about how YOU can participate in the 90th Anniversary Celebration.

A LITTLE HUMOR WHEN WE MOST NEED IT!

They're Back! Those wonderful Church Bulletins! Thank God for the church ladies with typewriters!

These sentences actually appeared in church bulletins or were announced at church services:

The Fasting & Prayer Conference includes meals.

Scouts are saving aluminum cans, bottles and other items to be recycled. Proceeds will be used to cripple children.

The sermon this morning: 'Jesus Walks on the Water.' The sermon tonight: 'Searching for Jesus.'

Ladies, don't forget the rummage sale. It's a chance to get rid of those things not worth keeping around the house.

Bring your husbands.

Don't let worry kill you off - let the Church help.

Miss Charlene Mason sang 'I will not pass this way again,' giving obvious pleasure to the congregation.

For those of you who have children and don't know it, we have a nursery downstairs.

Next Thursday there will be try-outs for the choir. They need all the help they can get.

Irving Benson and Jessie Carter were married on October 24 in the church. So ends a friendship that began in their school days.

A bean supper will be held on Tuesday evening in the church hall. Music will follow.

STEWARDSHIP CALENDARS



May

	5/3/20	5/10/20	5/17/20	5/24/20	5/31/20
Assisting Minister	Chuck Radtke	Ken Huebner	Melissa Wick	Phoebe Pettingell	Ken Huebner
Lay Reader	Marge Anderson	Jan Harris	Betty Roth	Robin Peterson	Marge Anderson
Altar Guild	Debby Carlson	Linda Swanson	Sue Sorg	Jan Harris	Diane Kliss
Greeters	Wicks	Andersons	Jan and Lily Harris	Matthiaes	Sue Sorg and Jan Harris
Music	Rhonda Buss	Rhonda Buss	Rhonda Buss	Rhonda Buss	Rhonda Buss
Fellowship	Roths	Hauschilds	Council	BOWL	Trustees
Video Streaming	Sela Wick	Sela Wick	Linda Swanson	Linda Swanson	Linda Swanson

June

	6/7/20	6/14/20	6/21/20	6/28/20
Assisting Minister	Melissa Wick	Phoebe Pettingell	Chuck Radtke	Ken Huebner
Lay Reader	Jan Harris	Betty Roth	Rob Peterson	Marge Anderson
Altar Guild	Debby Carlson	Linda Swanson	Sue Sorg	Jan Harris
Greeters	Wicks	Jan and Lily Harris	Andersons	Sue Sorg and Jan Harris
Music	Rhonda Buss	Rhonda Buss	Rhonda Buss	Rhonda Buss
Fellowship	Swansons	Council	Outreach	BOWL
Video Streaming	Linda Swanson	Linda Swanson	Linda Swanson	Linda Swanson

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

JUNE 2020

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
	1 Office Closed	2 10:00 am – 12:00 pm Pastor John's Office Hours 12:30 pm Theology Adventure Club (TAC)	3 12:30 pm Quilters	4	5 Office Closed	6
7 9:00 am Holy Communion <i>The Holy Trinity</i>	8 Office Closed	9 10:00 am – 12:00 pm Pastor John's Office Hours 12:30 pm Theology Adventure Club (TAC) 2:00 pm Council Meeting	10 12:30 pm Quilters	11	12 Office Closed	13
14 9:00 am Holy Communion	15 Office Closed	16 10:00 am – 12:00 pm Pastor John's Office Hours 12:30 pm Theology Adventure Club (TAC) 2:00 pm Council Meeting	17 12:30 pm Quilters	18	19 Office Closed	20

<p style="text-align: center;">21</p> <p style="text-align: center;">9:00 am Holy Communion</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">22</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Office Closed</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">23</p> <p style="text-align: center;">10:00 am – 12:00 pm Pastor John’s Office Hours 12:30 pm Theology Adventure Club (TAC) 2:00 pm Council Meeting</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">24</p> <p style="text-align: center;">12:30 pm Quilters</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">25</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">26</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Office Closed</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">27</p>
<p style="text-align: center;">28</p> <p style="text-align: center;">9:00 am Holy Communion</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">29</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Office Closed</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">30</p> <p style="text-align: center;">10:00 am – 12:00 pm Pastor John’s Office Hours 12:30 pm Theology Adventure Club (TAC)</p>				

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

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: 9:00 am – 12:00 pm
Tuesday – Thursday (closed Monday and Friday)

WEEKLY WORSHIP

Sunday Morning – 9:00 am
Holy Communion

STAFF

Office Administrator: MaryBeth Koslowski
office6995@gmail.com

Interim Pastor: Rev. John Kuziej
pllc@frontier.com

Custodian: Debbie Hock

Organist: Rhonda Buss

VISIT US ON THE WEB

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

VISIT US ON FACEBOOK

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



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