

Messenger Faith Lutheran Church

November—2025

volume 65 . issue 11



THANKSGIVING EVE WORSHIP

Wednesday November 26

Worship - 7pm Pie Social - 8pm

[No WOW meal or classes]

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a message from senior pastor, Jacob Heine

When I was a kid I loved to play with Legos (who am I kidding, I still love to play with Legos). I passed this love on to my kids as well. We have built many kits, and we have also just used the Legos to build whatever our imagination brings. When beginning to learn how to build we always started with building a house. It is a simple structure. Four walls. Four corners. Four places where interlocking pieces are important for stability and structure. As we continue to do the work of living out our Guiding Statement -

As a vibrant family of believers, Faith Lutheran shares God's saving grace to equip the next generation.

We need a stable structure. Four walls. Four corners. Four pillars on which to build and stand.

Proclaiming Christ Sharing Grace Equipping Generations Extending Mission

These are the pieces that we need to work together in order to live out our Guiding Statement. These will help lock us together into a strong structure that can withstand the attacks of the evil one. The reason? Because we will be connected to the chief cornerstone, Jesus Christ himself. With this foundational piece in place, as it has been for the life of the church, we have a strong and unshakable foundation to build upon.

Over the next several months we will take the opportunity to explore a little bit what each of these pillars look like, why they are important, and how they work together with the other pillars. Our activities and programming all finding their basis and grounding in these pillars.

As we continue to do the work that God has given to us from the foundations of the earth, we are building upon the tradition, faith, and lives of those that have gone before us so that we can see the church continue after us. We know that the best way to honor the past is to ensure the future. We do this by building upon the solid foundation of Christ, through the pillars of strength He gives!

In Christ's Hands,
Pastor Jacob

.WOW. & .EVENTS.



Word On Wednesdays

Dinner served — 5:15-6pm Classes for all ages — 6-7:30pm

- Pre-K through 4th grades: Classes with Activity Stations
- 5th-6th grades: Bible Study led by Eric Boling & Dave Wodtke
- 7th-8th grades: Confirmation led by Called Staff
- 9th-12th grades: Bible Study led by Ray Moran & Justin Campbell
- Adult Bible Study: Journeying with Jesus led by Pastor Heine

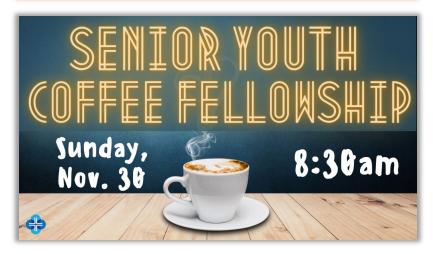
November Menu

11/5: Chicken noodle soup/tomato soup, grilled cheese, grapes/strawberries and brownies.

11/12: Sloppy joes, pasta salad, veggies & dip and Rice Krispie Treats.

11/19: Pizza, veggies & ranch and ice cream.

11/26: NO MEAL/THANKSGIVING WORSHIP & PIE SOCIAL



The *Kansas District Youth Gathering* is November 14-16 at Rock Springs 4-H Camp. Do you have a senior youth interested but missed the deadline? Talk to DCE Heather to see if there are still available spots.

Annual Junior Youth Fall Retreat is November 21-23 at Camp Wood YMCA, located in Elmdale, KS. Miss registration? Talk to DCE Heather for available spots.



Senior members are invited to join us

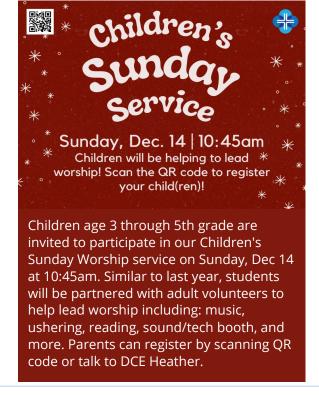
Sunday, Nov 9 at 5pm for a special evening
of food, fellowship and connection at our

Annual Harvest Dinner. This cherished
event brings generations together as our
Junior Youth serve, sit with, and share
meaningful moments with our senior
members. What a beautiful opportunity to
build relationships and bridge the
generational gap within our congregation.
No RSVP required!



YOUNG ADULTS (16+) ...

Join us for fellowship & breakfast every Saturday 9am at Hanover Pancake House.



.'TIS. .THE. .SEASON.







of all ages enjoy year after year. Zoo

Lights tickets available November 9

from the church office.



Fill and return a box and be entered into a raffle to win FREE TICKETS for your family to Silver Dollar City, located in Branson, MO. One entry per family, not per box. Questions? Talk to DCE Heather.

Return filled boxes by Sunday, November 16.





If you would like to purchase a **poinsettia** to decorate the church at Christmas, pick up an order form on Sunday, or call the church office.

Two sizes available:

\$11 for 6.5-inch plant \$20 for 8-inch plant Deadline is November 10.



| Sunday | Monday | Tuesday | Wednesday | Thursday | Friday | Saturday |
|---|---|---|---|---|-----------------------------|---|
| Reformation Sunday 8:00am Traditional 9:30am Education Hour 9:30am Voter's Meeting 10:45am Modern Worship 12:15pm Traditional 5:00pm Trunk-or-Treat | 9:00am Quilting 5:00pm LWML Exec Meeting 6:00pm Cub Scouts 7:00pm Scouts | 28 10:00am Bible Study | 11:00am Care Card Making 5:15pm WOW Meal 6:00pm WOW 7:30pm Praise Team | 30 | 31 | 1 8:00am Men's Bible Study |
| 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 |
| Daylight-Saving Time Ends 8:00am Trad Worship 9:30am Education Hour 10:45am LWML Noodle Dinner 10:45am Modern Worship 12:15pm Trad Worship 3:00pm Deaf Worship | 5:30pm Hannah Circle 6:00pm Cub Scouts 7:00pm Scouts | 10:00am Bible Study 6:30pm Spiritual Life | 5:15pm WOW Meal 6:00pm WOW 7:30pm Praise Team | 8:00am Scrapbooking 6:00pm Bell rehearsal 7:15pm Choir rehearsal | 8:00am Scrapbooking | 8:00am MOST Ministry 9:00am Breakfast Club |
| 9 | 10 | 11 | 12 | 13 | 14 | 15 |
| 8:00am Trad Worship 9:30am Education Hour 10:45am Modern Worship 12:15pm Trad Worship 5:00pm Junior Youth Harvest Dinner | 9:00am Quilting 6:00pm Cub Scouts 7:00pm Eve Circle 7:00pm Scouts | 10:00am Bible Study 6:00pm LLC | 9:30am Ruth Circle 11:00am Care Card Making 5:15pm WOW Meal 6:00pm WOW 7:30pm Praise Team | 6:00pm Bell rehearsal 7:15pm Choir rehearsal | District Youth Gathering | District Youth Gathering 8:00am Men's Bible Study 9:00am Breakfast Club |
| 16 | 17 | 18 | 19 | 20 | 21 | 22 |
| District Youth Gathering 8:00am Trad Worship 9:30am Education Hour 10:45am Modern Worship 12:15pm Trad Worship 3:00pm Deaf Worship | 6:00pm Cub Scouts 7:00pm Scouts | 10:00am Bible Study | 1:00pm Deborah Circle 5:15pm WOW Meal 6:00pm WOW 7:30pm Praise Team | 6:00pm Bell rehearsal 7:15pm Choir rehearsal | Junior Youth Retreat | Junior Youth Retreat 8:00am Men's Bible Study 9:00am Breakfast Club |
| 23 | 24 | 25 | 26 | 27 | 28 | 29 |
| Junior Youth Retreat 8:00am Trad Worship 9:30am Education Hour 10:45am Modern Worship 12:15pm Trad Worship | 9:00am Quilting 5:00pm LWML Exec Meeting 6:00pm Cub Scouts 7:00pm Scouts | 10:00am Bible Study | 7:00pm Thanksgiving Eve Worship 8:00pm Pie Social | Church office closed Thanksgiving Day | Church office closed | 8:00am Men's Bible Study 9:00am Breakfast Club |
| 30 | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 |
| Advent 8:00am Trad Worship 9:30am Education Hour 10:45am Modern Worship 12:15pm Trad Worship | 5:30pm Hannah Circle 6:00pm Cub Scouts 7:00pm Scouts | 10:00am Bible Study 6:30pm Spiritual Life | 11:00am Care Card Making 5:00pm Advent Worship 5:15pm Advent Meal 6:00pm WOW 7:00pm Advent | 8:00am Scrapbooking 6:00pm Bell rehearsal 7:15pm Choir rehearsal | 8:00am Scrapbooking | 8:00am Men's Bible Study 9:00am Breakfast Club |

.COMMUNITY. .OUTREACH.



Sunshine Connection Christmas Adoption

Please consider picking up an ornament from the tree in the church lobby requesting a \$35 Walmart Gift Card to support members of Sunshine **Connection--**a consumer-run organization dedicated to mental health recovery and proudly supported by Faith Lutheran Church. When you return your gift card, please tape the receipt to it and place it in the locked black box by the large bulletin board in the lobby.

Kindly return all donations as soon as possible, but no later than December 7.

DOORSTEP CHRISTMAS PROJECT

It's that special time of year when we really start focusing on our **Christmas Adoption Project**.

The Christmas Bureau is now accepting applications from families & individuals who need help providing Christmas this year. Before Thanksgiving, we'll receive our assigned households and begin preparing their letters, schedules and wish lists--covering more than 822 individuals!

Each household receives Christmas gifts, food, blankets, hygiene and household items, school supplies & toys for the children, a puzzle and game, and gift cards.

This is a big project, and we couldn't do it without the incredible support of our Faith Community Mission Members, individuals, and community groups. Please place items in Doorstep bin in church lobby.

We need the following NEW items:

Household Items:

- Sauce Pans, Dutch Ovens & Crockpots
- Kitchen Utensil Sets
- Kitchen Food Storage Sets
- Laundry Baskets & Cleaning Supplies (glass, all-purpose, toilet, micro-towels, dish soap)
- Queen & King Sheet Sets (darker colors)

Women's Gifts:

- Candles
- Nail Sets
- Body Care Sets (Body Wash, Lotion, Spray)



Men's Gifts:

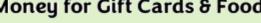
- **Tool Sets**
- **Body Care Sets** (Axe, Adidas, Old Spice)

(Needed by 12/9/25)

Tous, Teens & Gifts:

- Learning Toys ex: Vtech
- Basketballs & Footballs
- Teen Books ~ Fantasies
- Family Board Games
- Dominoes & Card Games
- Canuases (Value Packs)
- Paints & Brushes
- Ear Buds & Headphones

Money for Gift Cards & Food







Oh come, let us sing to the LORD; let us make a joyful noise to the rock of our salvation!

Psalm 95:1

DEBORAH CIRCLE will meet **Wednesday**, **Nov 19** at church at 1:00pm, hosted by Marian Bolz, topic by Karen Peterson.

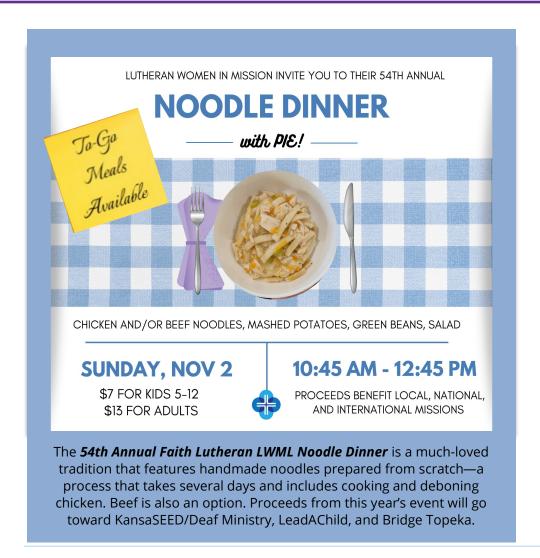
RUTH CIRCLE will meet **Wednesday**, **Nov 12** at church at 9:30am, hosted by Elaine Eggold & Wanita Dammann, topic by Brenda Reynolds.

EVE CIRCLE will meet **Monday, Nov 10** at 7:00pm at church, hosted by Darlene Strader, topic by Patrice Thomsen.

HANNAH CIRCLE will meet **Monday, Nov 3** at 5:30pm at church downstairs in the parlor to recap the Noodle Dinner.

THE ANNUAL FALL TEA was held on Sunday, October 12, with 39 attendees. Guests enjoyed a festive Christmas theme, complete with delicious Christmas cookies, and beautifully decorated tables featuring individual manger scenes.

Guest speakers, Jennifer and Mark Larson, along with Marty Ford from *Operation Christmas Child*, shared inspiring stories about the impact of the shoebox ministry for children around the world. Faith Lutheran participated in filling shoeboxes last year and is excited to do so again this year. Many toys, personal care items, clothing, and games were collected at the event to help fill the boxes and spread Christmas joy to children in need.





HAPPENING AT FAITH...









LWML Fall Tea

















Looking at the calendar and realizing that Thanksgiving is just a month away brings to mind the question: "What am I grateful for?"

Gratitude—defined as "the appreciation of positive outcomes and the role others play in them"—can be both an emotion and a habit. There's a deep connection between our minds and bodies when it comes to gratitude. Research continues to reveal its many positive health effects, including greater emotional and social well-being, better sleep quality, lower risks of depression, and even emerging evidence of improved cardiovascular health.

Of course, practicing gratitude isn't always easy. Life takes twists and turns, and circumstances change. Yet, by incorporating even one or two small habits each day, we can strengthen our sense of gratitude. Here are a few simple ways to begin:

- **Say "Thank You."** These two small words can have a tremendous impact on both the giver and the receiver.
- **Express Gratitude.** Let those in your life know how much they mean to you. There are countless opportunities to recognize the value others bring to your life.
- Write a Note or Letter. A few heartfelt words of kindness can make a lasting difference in someone's day—or even their life.
- **Show Appreciation.** Appreciation can be expressed outwardly or felt inwardly. Whether you voice it or simply savor it, the act itself can uplift both you and others.
- Acknowledge Your Blessings. Begin your day by reflecting on the good in your life. This simple practice can set a positive tone for the hours ahead.
- **Create a Gratitude List.** At the end of each day, write down the positives in your life. Sharing these reflections with others can multiply the joy.

Practicing gratitude is a powerful spiritual experience. It deepens our faith and strengthens our trust in our Heavenly Father, who provides for all our needs. Scripture overflows with reminders of God's care and promises to us. Saint Paul offers this guidance:

"Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly as you teach and admonish one another with all wisdom, and as you sing psalms, hymns, and spiritual songs with gratitude in your hearts to God.

And whatever you do, whether in word or deed, do it all in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through Him." — Colossians 3:16–17

When we practice gratitude, we nurture our well-being —boosting life satisfaction, reducing stress, and promoting resilience. As Thanksgiving approaches, let's make a conscious effort to notice and appreciate the blessings in our lives.

Happy Thanksgiving!

*This article was adapted in part from an article written by Carol Zimmerman, RN, Parish Nurse, Lutheran Church of the Living Christ, Madison, WI.

an update from our treasurer



September 2025

- Total donations for the month were \$105,343 and total expenses were \$81,244, resulting in a net positive balance for the month of \$24,099.
- YTD donations total \$846,524 and YTD expenses total \$875,517, resulting in a net YTD negative balance of (\$28,933).
- Donations for the month were \$7,478 more than 2024 and YTD donations are (\$5,392) less than 2024.



| | | | | Debra Taylor | 21 |
|-------------------|---|-----------------------|----|--------------------|----|
| Amelia Henley | 1 | Sherri Forbes | 6 | Doug Boetcher | 22 |
| Tamara Maxwell | 1 | Troy Myers | 7 | Dolan Riddle | 22 |
| Carrie Halupa | 2 | Dacien Powell | 9 | Martin Albrecht | 23 |
| Kelli Kirkeminde | 2 | Clara Hudson | 10 | Sherrie Dick | 23 |
| Linda Meyer | 2 | Jessica Powell | 10 | Nancy Kalthoff | 23 |
| Betsy Schlossman | 2 | Kenny Schepmann | 10 | Kae Hale | 24 |
| Lance Smith | 2 | Emily Schwant | 10 | Mark Zillinger | 25 |
| Kirby Wittenbach | 2 | Brett Hamilton | 11 | Alyssa Decker | 26 |
| Claire Decker | 3 | Gracelynn Bennett | 12 | Jaden Decker | 26 |
| Mike Lohe | 3 | Delane Brunken | 12 | Logan Decker | 26 |
| David Marstall | 3 | Erinn Grist | 12 | Maddox Decker | 26 |
| Ron Shelton | 3 | Erin Snethen | 12 | Kay Neuer | 26 |
| Kaydee Wills | 3 | Meredith Van Genderen | 13 | Jarrod Wertzberger | 26 |
| Matthew Marstall | 4 | Tamara Wilson | 14 | Bob Gabler | 27 |
| Jill Quarles | 4 | Andrew Kamprath | 15 | Julianne Harris | 28 |
| Irene Vincent | 4 | Karlea Landman | 15 | Ethel Kufahl | 30 |
| Barrett Robertson | 5 | James Gutierrez | 17 | Jan Lyle | 30 |

a message from your congregational president

At the special voter's meeting on October 26, the proposed constitution, bylaws, and special resolution were all passed by the membership. The impacted changes to worship will go into effect on Sunday, November 2.

This was a challenging and complex topic, but we are grateful that everyone approached it with thoughtfulness and respect. The open discussion and civility displayed by all members truly reflect the strength of our congregation.

Thank you to everyone who attended the meeting and participated in the town halls.

We look forward to walking together as the vibrant family of believers in this place, sharing God's saving grace to equip the next generation.

Ray Moran LLC president





Lane Grist

Craig Hansen

Muriel Bartlow

Natalie Haley Meredith Owen

Kelsey Tenbrink

Emma Michalski

Dobro Toylor

19

19

20 20

20

20

21

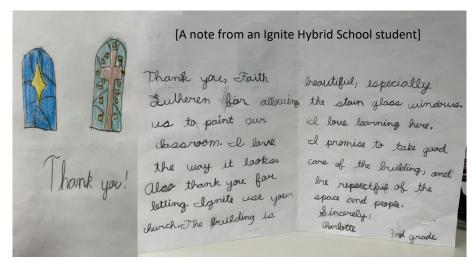
21

| Anna & Steve Obdyke | 3 |
|---------------------------|----|
| David & Nannette McGuigan | 6 |
| Don & Jan Rankin | 7 |
| Nick & Susie Tenbrink | 13 |
| Ashley & Brandon Watson | 18 |
| Loren & Susan Thowe | 23 |
| Roger & Jerri Matzke | 25 |
| Martin & Shari Albrecht | 26 |
| Arlyn & Delane Brunken | 29 |
| Geoff & Lacey Greene | 30 |

They have arrived in Israel!



Basilica of the Annunciation in Nazareth, Israel



2025 Advent | Christmas Season Services

12|3. 12|10. 12|17. Wednesday Advent Worship - 5 & 7pm [meal 5:15-6:45]

12|14. Children's Sunday Service - 10:45am Christmas Concert - 4:00pm

12|24. Christmas Eve - 4:00pm Family Worship

6:00pm Modern Worship8:30pm Traditional Worship

12|25. Christmas Day - 9:30am

12|31. New Year's Eve - 7:00pm





If you would like to submit something for December's Messenger, please email Lacey by November 17.

Official Act

Baptism:

10/12 Jacie James Pera, daughter of Jacob & Cassandra



FAITH LUTHERAN CHURCH

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FOllow us on: FACEBOOK INSTAGRAM YOUTUBE

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> Pat Schultz, RN, parish nurse TiredMomPLS@aol.com

Jessica Atchison, SS & WOW superintendent JessicaKidMin@gmail.com

CHURCH OFFICE HOURS

Mon - Fri 8:00am to 4:30pm (closed 12-1pm)

SUNDAY WORSHIP

8:00* - Traditional Worship

10:45* - Contemporary Worship

12:15 - Traditional Worship

* also live-streamed on Facebook, YouTube

EDUCATION

Sundays for all ages: 9:30am
WOW Wednesdays: 5:15-7:30pm(Sept-Apr)