

Messenger Faith Lutheran Church

volume 65 . issue 10



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a message from senior pastor, Jacob Heine

October-2025

Having good focus and direction is important for all organizations. As a congregation it is vital we know who we are, what we do, and why we do it. This gives us direction and focus for our ministry and life together.

In September we took some time to expand on our Guiding Statement, that piece of our Ministry Clarity process that helps give us focus and direction. As we continue forward together, we will use this to look at all the work we do together.

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

As a vibrant family of believers – Who we are

Faith Lutheran is a multigenerational gathering of people from different backgrounds that form a dynamic family. Brought together as adopted children of God through the waters of baptism we joyfully and eagerly gather to share life, ministry, and to grow together as the family of God.

Faith Lutheran shares God's saving grace – What we do

As the family of God, saved by grace alone, we share that same grace with others. We know that God's grace must extend to those in our midst, our fellow family of believers members, while also sharing with those who are yet to be part of the family of God. In this way we know that we live resurrection life now through our mission and outreach work.

To equip the next generation – Why we do it

Faith Lutheran does not exist for itself, but for the mission of God to proclaim the kingdom of God to the next generation. Until Christ returns, we work to make sure that children, youth, kids, and grandkids—the next generation—of the Church know the saving grace of God and are ready to lead and hand off the faith to those who will come after them as well.

Exciting things are ahead as we work together as the Body of Christ here at Faith!

In Christ's Hands, Pastor Jacob

.WOW. .YOUTH.



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

October Menu

10/1: Baked chicken, mashed potatoes & gravy, green beans, rolls & ice cream

10/8: Baked ham, cheesy potatoes, corn, rolls & cake

10/15: Breakfast casserole, sausage patties, hashbrowns, peaches/ pears & cupcakes

10/22: Chicken & rice casserole, rolls & pumpkin bars

10/29: Pulled pork, potato salad, veggies & ranch, apple crisp

& vanilla ice cream

YOUTH MYSTERY EVENTS: Dinner provided by Faith







Sr Youth host coffee fellowship on **Sunday, Oct 19** at 8:30am. All proceeds go toward Jr Youth trips.



Jr Youth Retreat registration is open for fall retreat happening Nov 21-23 at Camp Wood YMCA, located in Elmdale, KS. This retreat is FREE to attend (cost is generously covered by Spiritual Life) but registration is required. Forms due to Heather by Sun, Oct 19.



Kansas District Youth Gathering registration is open for all high school students interested in attending. The Gathering is **Nov 14-16** at Rock Springs 4-H Camp. Registration forms are due back to Heather with \$150 deposit by Sun, Oct 19.



2025 Kansas District Youth Gathering



.fallFUN. .forEVERYONE.



Tickets available in the church office, \$10 each.

Don't miss our annual Gary's Berries event. Come for fellowship and fall fun, including corn maze, pig races, hayrack rides, tube slide, corn pit, goat mountain, etc. Meet the newest animal addition, Turbo, a baby mini highland calf. We will gather at EJ Corral for FREE hotdogs, chips, water and s'mores.





Oktoberfest

Saturday, October 4, 4-8 p.m. 901 SW fillmore, Topeka, KS

hosted by St. John's Classical Lutheran School Fundraiser & Fellowship









Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	ednesday Thursday		Saturday	
28	29	30	1	2	3	4	
8:00am Traditional Worship 9:30am Education Hour 10:45am Modern Worship 12:15pm Traditional Worship	5:00pm LWML Exec Meeting 7:00pm Scouts	10:00am Bible Study	11:00am Care Card Making 5:15pm WOW Meal 6:00pm WOW 7:30pm Praise Team rehearsal 7:30pm Israel Mtg	8:00am Scrapbooking	8:00am Scrapbooking Guided Spiritual Retreat	8:00am Men's Bible Study 9:00am Breakfast Club Guided Spiritual Retreat	
5	6	7	8	9	10	11	
LWML Sunday 8:00am Traditional Worship 9:30am Education Hour 10:45am Modern Worship 12:15pm Traditional Worship	5:30pm Hannah Circle 6:00pm Cub Scouts 7:00pm Scouts	10:00am Bible Study 6:30pm Spiritual Life	9:30am Ruth Circle 9:15pm WOW Meal 6:00pm WOW 7:30pm Praise Team rehearsal	6:00pm Bell rehearsal 7:15pm Choir rehearsal	6:00pm Junior Youth Event	8:00am MOST Ministry 9:00am Breakfast Club 6:00pm Senior Youth Event	
12	13	14	15	16	17	18	
Pastor Appreciation Day 8:00am Traditional Worship 9:30am Education Hour 10:45am Modern Worship 12:15pm Traditional Worship 2:00pm LWML Fall Tea	9:00am Quilting 6:00pm Cub Scouts 7:00pm Scouts	10:00am Bible Study 6:00pm LLC	11:00am Care Card Making 5:15pm WOW Meal 6:00pm WOW 7:30pm Praise Team rehearsal	rehearsal Aliv N Meal 7:15pm Choir N rehearsal		8:00am Men's Bible Study 9:00am Breakfast Club 6:00pm Gary's Berries	
19	20	21	22	23	24	25	
8:00am Traditional Worship 9:30am Education Hour 10:45am Modern Worship 12:15pm Traditional Worship	6:00pm Cub Scouts 7:00pm Scouts	10:00am Bible Study 7:00pm Deborah Circle	5:15pm WOW Meal 6:00pm WOW 7:30pm Praise Team rehearsal	6:00pm Bell rehearsal 7:15pm Choir rehearsal		8:00am Men's Bible Study 9:00am Breakfast Club	
26	27	28	29	30	31	1	
9:30am Education Hour	9:00am Quilting 5:00pm LWML Exec Meeting 6:00pm Cub Scouts 7:00pm Scouts	10:00am Bible Study	11:00am Care Card Making 5:15pm WOW Meal 6:00pm WOW 7:30pm Praise Team rehearsal			8:00am Men's Bible Study 9:00am Breakfast Club	

^{**}Saints Alive After 55 (formerly known as Senior Saints) will now meet one Friday a month.

If interested, contact the church office to receive emails about group events.

update from our treasurer...

August 2025

- Total donations for the month were \$65,760 and total expenses were \$86,270, resulting in a net negative balance for the month of (\$20,510).
- Year-to-date donations total \$741,180 and year-to-date expenses total \$794,273, resulting in a net YTD negative balance of (\$53,092).
- Donations for the month were (\$11,295) less than 2024 and year-to-date donations are (\$12,871) less than 2024.

Official Acts



Baptism:

9/14 **Leonard James Beckerman**, son of MacKenzie Crader and Anthony Beckerman

Transfer In:

9/1 Scott & Andrea Van Genderen
Michael Van Genderen
Meredith Van Genderen
Patrick Van Genderen
Bryan Van Genderen
from Christ Lutheran Church in Topeka



On June 8, 1966, a powerful tornado tore through Topeka, leaving thousands in sudden need of shelter, food, clothing, and furniture. Among the first to respond was a newly formed agency named **Doorstep**, established just six months earlier by six central Topeka churches. Moved by the needs right outside their doors, these congregations came together to serve their community—literally on their "doorstep."

Next June, Doorstep will celebrate 60 years of neighbors helping neighbors. What began with six churches has now grown to include more than 50 Topeka faith communities, all united in showing God's love through helping hands and caring hearts.

Doorstep remains deeply grateful for every donation—large or small—and for each individual who supports its mission. Together, we continue a legacy of compassion, faith, and service.





Doorstep adopts 250 families from the Topeka Christmas Bureau. Each child receives a new backpack and school supplies. Volunteers are currently assembling backpacks but they are short of some supplies. The following is a list of school supplies still needed.

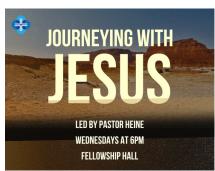
- spirial notebooks
- loose leaf paper, wide
- loose leaf paper, college
- backpacks
- markers
- blue pens
- glue

Please place donated items in the wooden bin located in the church lobby.

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Journey through the incredible places of Scripture—uncover their powerful significance and discover how they shape our faith and transform our walk with Jesus.





Join or lead a small group today! Contact **Pastor Jeff** for more information.



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 enjoyed the Topeka Zone meeting in September. They will meet **Tuesday, Oct 21** for devotions and fellowship. Jan Lyle is hosting and Karen Peterson will lead the topic.

RUTH CIRCLE met Sept 10 with a short business meeting, interesting lesson and delicious refreshments. They will not meet again until **Nov 12**.

EVE CIRCLE will provide information on Operation Christmas Child for the Fall Tea on **Sunday, Oct 12**. The next meeting is **Monday, Nov 10**. Darlene Strader is hosting and Patrice Thomsen will lead the topic.

HANNAH CIRCLE made meals at Ronald McDonald House on Sept 14 and 28. They loved exploring the stocked kitchen and chatting with residents who have little ones in the NICU. If you're interested in joining them in the future, please contact Claire Banion at clairebanion@gmail.com

MITES are being collected for Kansas District Mission Grant #8, Concordia Academy—Wichita, KS. Concordia Academy—Wichita (CAW) is a new Lutheran High School located in Wichita. Orbis Concordiae (The Realm of Concordia Residency Program) allows CAW to share the Lutheran Classical Education Curriculum to students outside the Wichita area. Thank you to all who have supported this mission through your donations to the mite box located in the church lobby on first Sunday of every month.

LWML
Sunday is
Oct 5 with a

focus on part of their mission statement:

Proclaiming

Christ.



LWML National Convention Reflections by Claire Banion

In April 2024, I was privileged to represent the Topeka Zone as a Young Woman Representative at the KS District LWML Convention in Wichita, KS. In June 2025, I was honored to serve as one of four Young Woman Representatives from KS District at the National Convention in Omaha, NE. There were 89 total YWRs to represent the 40 districts.

I think we can all boldly claim that Lutherans are not a young crowd. At convention, an entertainer divided the crowd into three sections to participate by age: teens to 40, 40 to 60, and 60 to 80. In order, the response was a whisper, a call, and then a shout of response praising the God that unites us all despite age gaps. Oddly enough, being a YWR at these events is akin to a Lutheran lady celebrity. I was hugged more than 15 times on the first day, often by ladies I met in that instant. It was uncomfortable and absolutely lovely. It is humbling to see how loudly older generations of Lutheran women support and proudly encourage the younger generations at these conventions.

Originating from 500 years ago, the phrase "to stand on the shoulders of giants" takes on a new meaning when you get to worship alongside, learn from, and witness the faith of those giants. The LWML is nearing its 100-year anniversary and hasn't slowed down. The convention united more than 3,800 women, raised more than \$300,000 in a weekend, and set a goal to raise \$2.6 million dollars in the next two years to cover 33 mission grants to support local, national, and international LCMS registered service organizations. With only 25% of district earnings going to the national LCMS grant initiative, this number means that our 40 LWML districts will actually raise \$10.4 million dollars in the next two years to support even more (and local) ministries!

If you are or know of a young lady who is interested in representing the Topeka zone at the KS district LWML convention this next spring, please reach out to me. We are taking applications until January 15 and would love for you to meet your giants.

LWML Hosts Topeka Zone Fall Gathering at Faith

On September 20, Faith Lutheran LWML hosted the Topeka Zone Fall Gathering, welcoming approximately 60 women from congregations throughout their zone. The event began with an opening devotion and Bible study on Philippians 4, led by Pastor Heine. The study focused on their theme verse:

"Don't worry about anything, but in everything, through prayer and petition with thanksgiving, present your requests to God." —Philippians 4:6

As part of the gathering, **Gifts from the Heart** were collected for Meals on Wheels to support their annual Christmas Bags project. These bags will be distributed to approximately 1,000 recipients who receive weekday meal deliveries in Shawnee, Jefferson, and Douglas counties. Guest speaker Amy Barter from Meals on Wheels shared how vital these meals are—not only for providing nutritious food, but also as a caring welfare check for elderly and disabled individuals who may be isolated.

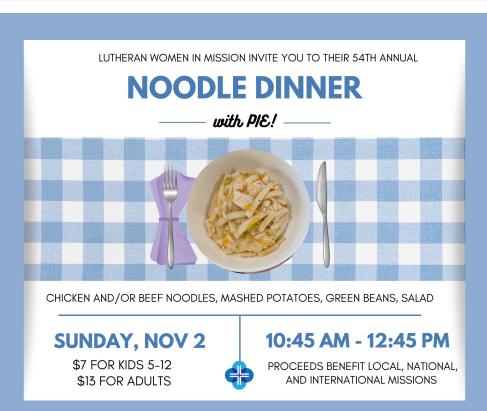
They received generous donations of toiletries, hats, scarves, gloves, puzzle books, and monetary gifts to help bring holiday cheer to those who may not otherwise receive Christmas presents.

The servant event for the day involved assembling Blessing Bags for the Homeless. Each bag included bottled water, nutritious snacks, a Thrivent T-shirt, and a pocket testament of the Gospel of John. A total of 60 blessing bags were assembled, and participants were encouraged to take bags back to their home congregations for local distribution. Additional blessing bags are available at Faith for members of our congregation to take and share with those in need.

A heartfelt thank you to all Faith LWML members who contributed their time, talents, and hospitality to make this event such a meaningful and uplifting experience.



Join us for tea, coffee and Christmas treats as we jumpstart the holiday season to learn about the ministry of Operation Christmas Child. All ladies welcome.



The **54th Annual Faith Lutheran LWML Noodle Dinner** is a much-loved tradition that features handmade noodles prepared from scratch—a process that takes several days and includes cooking and deboning chicken. Beef is also an option. Proceeds from this year's event will be designated by vote at the **LWML Fall Tea on October 12**.



To our called staff and church workers:

We appreciate all you do to help us

"serve the Lord with gladness!"

~Faith Lutheran LWML

FOR YOUR HEALTH...Breast Cancer Awareness & Prevention

a message from our Parish Nurse Pat Schultz, RN

October marks National Breast Cancer Awareness Month:

a time dedicated to raising awareness about the most common cancer affecting women worldwide. Because breast cancer is also the **second leading cause of cancer-related deaths among women globally**, it deserves our attention—even amid our busy lives.

Approximately **1** in **8** women will be diagnosed with breast cancer in her lifetime. Risk increases with age, with the average age at diagnosis being **63**. Women under the age of 40 account for only about **10% of new cases**. Thankfully, the overall incidence of breast cancer has been declining in recent years, likely due to improvements in screening, treatment, and early detection.

Today, the **five-year survival rate** for breast cancer stands at about **91%**, thanks to increased awareness, access to quality healthcare, and advances in research and treatment. Breast Cancer Awareness Month emphasizes the importance of early detection, recognizing symptoms, reducing risk factors, and supporting those affected.

Several national organizations provide vital resources, education, and support services, including:



- National Breast Cancer Foundation (NBCF)
- Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC)
- •Food and Drug Administration (FDA)
- Susan G. Komen Foundation

The five most common warning signs of breast cancer are:

- 1) A new lump, hard knot, or thickening in the breast or underarm area
- 2) Swelling, warmth, redness, or darkening of the breast
- 3) Changes in the size or shape of the breast
- 4) Dimpling or puckering of the skin on the breast
- Nipple discharge (other than breastmilk) or a newly retracted (puckering or pulling in) nipple.

Other possible signs include irritation or redness of breast skin; scaly, flaky, or pitted skin on the nipple or breast; nipple or breast pain; swollen lymph nodes in the armpit or near the collarbone. If you experience any of these symptoms it is important to seek medical advice and diagnosis from a professional healthcare provider.

Most physicians recommend that women perform **routine monthly breast self-exams**. Your physician—or any of the national organizations mentioned above—can provide detailed instructions on how to properly perform a self-exam.

Consistency is key, as breast tissue naturally changes throughout the menstrual cycle due to hormonal fluctuations. Performing the exam at the same time each month establishes a baseline, making it easier to recognize any unusual changes.

- For women who are **still menstruating**, the ideal time for a self-exam is **three to five days after the period ends**, when breasts are typically less tender or swollen.
- For **postmenopausal women**, choosing a consistent day each month—such as the first of the month—helps ensure regularity.

According to the American Cancer Society, most women should begin annual mammogram screenings at age 40. However, the timing for your first screening may vary depending on personal risk factors, such as a family history of breast cancer.

- Women with a **strong family history** may be advised to begin screenings earlier.
- About **10% of breast cancer cases are hereditary**, so it's important for every woman to know her family's medical history.

Regular screenings and open conversations with your doctor are essential tools in early detection and individualized prevention strategies.

Lifestyle Choices That Support Breast Health:

While screenings are crucial, lifestyle also plays an important role in reducing the risk of breast cancer. The following changes can support overall health and potentially lower your risk:

- Maintain a healthy weight: Obesity is a known risk factor, particularly for postmenopausal women not on hormone therapy.
- **Exercise regularly**: Physical activity is associated with a lower risk of breast cancer.
- **Limit alcohol consumption**: Even moderate alcohol intake can increase risk.
- **Avoid smoking**: Smoking is linked to a higher risk, especially in premenopausal women.
- Eat a balanced diet: A diet rich in fruits, vegetables, and antioxidants supports immune health and may reduce cancer risk.



Sunday school offering for October will go to support LCMS Disaster Relief. —Christian Service Team

Arlyn Brunken	2
Brayden Long	3
Luke Robinson	4
Drake Dunton	5
Matthew Hubka	5
Hudson Kirkeminde	5
Archer Greene	6
Larry Jordan	6
Matt Caleb	7
Lillian Rexford	7
Ariah Durkes	8
Glen Berry	9
Delena Brackman	9
Barb Khalil	9
Sharon Lowe	9
Susan Athey-Sheets	10
Liz Bolz	10
Jeff Lane	10
Jeni Moss	10

Easton Reetz

Connie Tarvin

Sophia Tenbrink



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Rod Bleich	21
Keith Mazachek	21
Zachary Mize	22
Marian Bolz	24
Megan Decker	24
Karen Tardiff	24
Marilyn Thomas	24
Norma Williams	24
Norbert Wodtke	26
Gary Dick	27
Amber Long	27
Shirley Martin	27
Alexa Domme	28
Madison McCormick	28
Ron Moss	28
Kimberly White	28
Kayla Riddle	29
Leland O'Shea	30
GR Marchant	31
Cash Pfrang	31

Jessica Atchison

21



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12

We Thank God for Our Pastors!

October 12 is designated as **Pastor Appreciation Day**, and we are truly blessed as a congregation to have three faithful and dedicated pastors serving among us:

Senior Pastor Jacob Heine, Assistant Pastor Martin Albrecht and Associate Pastor Jeff Lane.

Our pastors faithfully preach and teach God's Word, provide counsel and comfort, visit the sick and homebound, and much more—generously giving of their time and talents to serve both our congregation and the wider community.

Please keep our pastors in your daily prayers, and take a moment this month to express your gratitude and appreciation for their faithful ministry.

Please stop by the Pastor Appreciation basket in the lobby and take a card to write an encouraging note for one or all of our pastors.

Heather & Troy Myers	2
Judy & Ron Moss	3
Gary & Rebecca Robinson	5
Ed & Kathy Thomason	5
Matt & Sarah Caleb	6
Kevin & Tamara Maxwell	9
Audra & Brandon Durkes	10
Ashley & Jordon McCallister	14
Greg & Jennifer Harris	15



Cindy & Tim McCorr	mick 16	•
Karen & Wayne Pet	erson 22	
Bryan & Sarah Falk	23	;
Amie & Jerald Morlo	ock 25	•
Jan & Bob Hoover	26	•
Bryanna & Lucas Ne	elson 26	•
Jarrod & Eileen Wer	tzberger 29)
Mike & Mary Jennin	igs 30)



"As each has received a gift, use it to serve one another, as good stewards of God's varied grace ..." — 1 Peter 4:10

Beautiful Savior Lutheran Church 13145 S Blackbob Rd — **Olathe, KS 66062**

Friday, O	ct 31	 		 	 	
		 _	_	 	 _	_

Reformation Service followed by light refreshments 7:00pm and fellowship

Saturday, Nov 1

8:30am Registration opens with light refreshments and

fellowship

Kansas LLL District Board Meeting

10:00am Convention begins



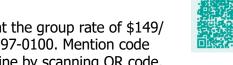
REGISTRATION INFORMATION

\$30 per person (includes lunch)

Register online at Ihm.org/Kansas-III or scan the QR code with your mobile device. (DEADLINE OCT 20)

CONVENTION HOTEL

Holiday Inn Express & Suites Olathe North 12070 S Strang Line Rd — Olathe, KS 66062



To reserve a room at the group rate of \$149/ night, call (913) 397-0100. Mention code **KS LLL** or book online by scanning QR code.

For more information or questions, contact:

Joe Chretien, Kansas LLL District President (785) 639-3851 | jrchretien@hotmail.com

Fred Gruhn, KS LLL District Convention Chairman (913) 209-2785 | fredgruhn@gmail.com



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

lessica 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)