

FAITH LUTHERAN CHURCH

Evangelical Lutheran Church in America



2021

Sunday Worship at 9:00 am in Person &
Via Faith Families & You Tube
Office Phone 262-377-0960

OFFICE HOURS

Tuesday-Friday - 9-NOON

Website - www.faithlutherancedarburg.com

John C. Norquist - Pastor

FOCUS ON FAITH

Gathered as a community living in God's love we serve all people, care for the earth and embrace the work of the Holy Spirit.

*Faith Lutheran Church will be recognized as a community of spiritual growth,
a gateway for environmental stewardship,
a creator of partnerships and an advocate for social justice and peace.*

SEPTEMBER 2021

FAITH LUTHERAN CHURCH

N35 W6621 Wilson Street, P.O. Box 246, Cedarburg, Wisconsin 53012

Office Phone 262-377-0960

Website - www.faithlutherancedarburg.com; Email - faithchurchkathy@gmail.com

STAFF

Pastor - John C. Norquist
Office Manager - Kathy Thiele
Bookkeeper/Office Assistant - Judy Gronbach
FCP Activities Coordinator - Dena Baule
Organist / Pianist- Stephen V. Hibbard
Celebration Director - Stephen V. Hibbard
Financial Sec. - Esther Rusch/Cindy Dellegrazio
Treasurer - Leo Buser
Custodians - Gary & Kathy Gilstrap

OFFICERS

President - Tom Sear
Vice-President - Al Gresch
Secretary - Joe Dorr

COUNCIL REPRESENTATIVES

Church in Society - Joyce Caldwell,
Esther Rusch
Executive Committee - Tom Sear
Education - Joyce Caldwell
Evangelism - Joe Dorr
Finance Advisory - Al Gresch, Tom Sear
Land Use - Tom Sear, Joyce Caldwell,
Esther Rusch
Music & Worship - Amanda Gresch, Al Gresch
Personnel Committee - Al Gresch, Tom Sear
Property - Tom Sear
Stewardship - Esther Rusch
Trust Funds - Joe Dorr, Tom Sear
Andy Baule



Bible Readings for SEPTEMBER

September 5 - 15th Sunday after Pentecost

Isaiah 35:4-7a

Psalms 146

James 2:1-10 [11-13] 14-17

Mark 7:24-37

September 12 - 16th Sunday after Pentecost

Isaiah 50:4-9a

Psalms 116:1-9

James 3:1-12

Mark 8:27-38

September 19 - 17th Sunday after Pentecost

Jeremiah 11:18-20 or

Wisdom 1:16 - 2:1, 12-22

Psalms 54

James 3:13 - 4:3, 7-8a

Mark 9:30-37

September 26 - 18th Sunday after Pentecost

Numbers 11:4-6, 10-16, 24-29

Psalms 19:7-14

James 5:13-20

Mark 9:38-50



READERS IN SEPTEMBER

September 5 – Barbara Johnson

September 12 – Cindy Ehlers

September 19 – Open

September 26 - Open



- 9/4 Whit Lehnberg
- 9/7 Gerri Noack
- 9/9 Heather Contresceri
- 9/10 Dena Baule
- 9/14 Rebecca Blau
Chuck Thiele
- 9/15 Kyle Polum
Mya Zarling
- 9/17 Phil Dellegrazio
Nancy Lange
- 9/18 Joyce Christie
- 9/21 Bev Yurske
- 9/24 Diane Fischer
Philip Paige
- 9/26 Timothy Gergens
Gentry Wittenberg

FUN FACTS FROM THE OFFICE

The longest distance ever traveled to by a book is 3,950 miles. Emerson Spartz flew from Chicago to London to buy the 5th Harry Potter book.

Pondering in the Prairie Returns



After a summer hiatus, join us as we gather in the prairie to ponder prayer. We will meet at 6 PM on September 14 to reflect on the question, "What sustains your prayer life?" We are planning to meet once more in the prairie on October 12 also at 6 PM to ponder the question. "What molds our belief – is it theology or politics or...? What is the interplay between theology and politics?" Bring your own chairs as we gather. Covid safety protocols will be observed.





PLEASE PRAY FOR Jim Groehler (LaVerne Gresch’s nephew), Sara (neighbor of Marcia and Bob Guse), Emily Elert, Rev. Erik Jelinek (Joe & Dottie’s son-in-law), Daniel Warnimont (LaVerne Gresch’s great grandson), Al Anderson and his daughter Missi, Rita Huglen (Cindy Dellegrazio’s sister-in-law), Ellen Haynes, Retta Strehlow, Susan Sear (Tom’s sister) Diane Uden (friend of Ellie

Anderson), Ron Schmid (friend of Dennison’s), Rev. Dale Erickson, Margaret Radke, Pat & Phil Dimmer, Stella (6 year old granddaughter of good friends of the Gresch’s), Eric Fossum (Jennifer Beverung’s husband) Rich (Joan Dorsey’s brother-in-law), Becky Godfrey, Presley (10 year old granddaughter (cancer) of Trish Gierach’s step-sister), Carol Neuer, Ron Rappold (Renny’s son), Gail (friend of Kelly Dennison), Julia Gergens, Michelle Burton, Evelyn (friend of Dennison’s and Kathy), Tom Connors, Tim Woods (cancer, David Tyre’s father-in-law); for all those in mission work, especially Pam Alarcon, Karen Puhl; for local churches, especially Advent, Immanuel, St. John and Trinity; for all those effected by the Coronavirus, especially:

Nurses: Robyn Baken, Carol Christie, Jenny DeAngelo, Trisha Halberg, Jenny Wittenberg, Amy Norquist, Alexx Polum, Lynn Wagner, Brenda Brill, Jenny Findlay, Miranda Van do Loo, Linda & Nicole Stauss

Doctors: Daniel Hagerman, Boyd Miller, Nathan Norquist, Will Bryant, Nate Baggett;

EMT/Ambulance: Eric Butler, Tom Schoofs, the Zarlings, Peter Pautz,

Nursing Home Chaplain: Julie Ische.



MARK’S SECRET REVEALED
The Story of Jesus in the first written Gospel

How would you like to hold in your hands the first written Gospel of the New Testament? You can! On Tuesdays, 2-3pm, September 14 through October, we’ll experience together the exciting story of Jesus punctuated with one of the writer’s favorite words: *immediately*.

Participants will meet with Pastor Dale Erickson to follow the Son of God in action as he ushers in the rule of God. We’ll rejoice with those healed, struggle for understanding with the disciples, and feel the tension with local leaders of the first century that ends in violence, yet achieves the victory over evil we all desperately desire. The secret of the Messiah may burst into our own lives, as the “little people” show up to help us see the reality of the faithful life. Join us! We meet in the church lounge.

Bibles, maps, and visuals will be provided. Perfect attendance is not required. Feel free to bring along friends and all interested in the adventure!



“**God’s work. Our hands Sunday** is celebrated on **September 12, 2021**. This day is an opportunity to celebrate who we are as the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America – one church, freed in Christ to serve and love our neighbor.

Service activities offer an opportunity for us to explore one of our most basic convictions as Lutherans: that all of life in Jesus Christ – every act of service, in every daily calling, in every corner of life – flows freely from a living, daring confidence in God’s grace.’



Faith has a long history of service that goes beyond this church wide day of service. Our annual school kit project took a break during the COVID quarantine last year, but this year we collected school supplies throughout the summer and will pack the school bags on September 12 after worship. Everyone can participate in this project to purchase and pack supplies to provide needed school necessities for students in our backyard and in the world.



In addition to this annual project, this year Faith will gather with our friends at Advent on SATURDAY morning September 11 to do a service project in the West Lawn Woods. We will remove invasive buckthorn during a morning (9-11AM) workday. This project cares for creation and teaches to recognize and remove an invasive species that choke out native plants. Pastor John will be on hand to instruct us in the identification of buckthorn and will lead us in an activity about caring creation.



choke out

for

a lopper if that

If you are able to join us on Saturday, please wear gloves and bring you have one. Although this can be a family activity, we request children under high school age are accompanied by a parent. To RSVP, please follow this link: <https://forms.gle/vzf11HoWqmDyhEqJ9>. If you can't attend, you can still participate by signing up to provide water or cookies for the workers on the same form.



CURE FOR CABIN FEVER RUMMAGE SALE

We’d love to help you declutter! Your clean, gently used items can be brought to the lower level of church any time; the committee has been busy tagging items as they come in and with your help this will be another successful sale. No adult clothes please. The date of the next rummage sale is **February 19, 2022**. Put this reminder date in your phone please so when we ask for your help, the date will already be reserved. Any questions contact Laverne or Jacquie. Thank you so much!





Mission of the Month

September Mission of the Month – Advocacy

Part of the mission of the ELCA is faithful participation in society. What does that mean? So many of us have grown up in a culture of just getting along, not making waves, so this language can be confusing, even a little scary. Just what are *those people* at the national office asking us to do? Oh wait – you say our own mission statement says we’ll strive to be advocates for social justice and peace? *WHAT??*

We read from the ELCA website: “The ELCA is a church that believes God is calling us into the world — together. As part of this call, we seek the common good for society, provide moral vision and are committed to addressing social and cultural injustices and issues. The ELCA participates in God’s just and loving purpose for all of creation in many different ways, from the daily actions of members as citizens, to efforts in social service, to public witness for justice.” In addition, the ELCA website has a tab devoted to advocacy: <https://elca.org/Our-Work/Publicly-Engaged-Church/Advocacy> that makes it easy to sign up for advocacy alerts and to find information about our social statements and messages that guide our participation in advocacy efforts.

The good news is that we do some of this in our daily life when we volunteer at school or in the community or do things that help our neighbors. But we are called to do more – to step a bit outside of our comfort zone. I’ve been doing this a little bit during the pandemic through Zoom trainings and updates from local organizations like Bridge the Divide to our Synod’s Antiracism Training to national organizations like Bread for the World or the ELCA advocacy office. One good thing that has come from the pandemic is being able to access information without leaving the comfort of my house!



Unknown

Bread for The World is a pan Christian advocacy organization that has helped me become informed about how hunger and poverty impact all of us – even if we have enough to eat. Through their advocacy efforts I have been able to speak up via letters to my congress people; the templates are provided, which makes it even easier. In August I took a big step and was part of a Zoom advocacy call with 2 other Bread members and Congressman Glen

Grothman. I had never done that! But the other two participants were experienced advocates, so I could watch and learn.

You can become part of their advocacy network by signing up to receive their email updates <https://www.bread.org/join-bread>, scroll to the bottom of the page and add your email. I have found the information helpful, and Bread always provides a letter template when they ask you to contact your congress people, so it is easy to take that step into advocacy. Watch their video:

https://youtu.be/g_Z1vvbMAPM, learn more and join me on this advocacy journey.

In addition, you can make a financial contribution to support the work of Bread for the World through the Mission of the Month.

Ellie Anderson

And what does the LORD require of you? To act justly and to love mercy and to walk humbly^(a) with your God. Micah 6:8

Reconciling in Christ

It is now September 2021, and we have been sharing stories with you for over a year on why members of the congregation see that it is important to be a Reconciling in Christ (RIC) congregation. Thank you for journeying with us through the process of conversation and discernment. We have been continuing to learn and grow and talk about what it means to welcome persons of all sexual orientations, gender identities, and gender expressions. The next step for the RIC team will be writing a statement of welcome. We will host several sessions this fall to focus on the statement, make revisions, and talk about the meaning of a welcome statement in preparation for discussion and action at the Annual Meeting.

We want to hear from you, talk with you, and engage with you in this process. We have been hearing from many who see that being an RIC congregation is important, but we want to hear from everyone. Do you have questions or concerns? Have you had different experiences? We would like to hear from you.

Please feel free to contact one of the members of the RIC team (Ellie Anderson, Joyce Caldwell, Pam Gergens, Pastor John, Alexx Polum, Esther Rusch) for a one-on-one conversation. And continue to read and reflect on the stories people are sharing here in the Focus. If you are willing to share your story, please send it to Joyce Caldwell (jacaldwell@wi.rr.com).

Why Being a Reconciling in Christ Congregation is Important to Me – Ruth Gollnick

I have never been so excited that our church is in the process of becoming a Reconciling in Christ congregation.

As many of you know my granddaughter and her wife are members of the LGBTQ community. Allie is a traveling nurse working out of Beaver Dam Hospital, and Kimberly Polum, my granddaughter, is the happiest stay at home mother I have seen in a long time. The two of them are willing to help anyone who needs help except if it interferes with their kids' lives. Their children are Elliott, who likes to help Pastor John preach when they can get here for the services, and Calleigh who loves to follow her big brother around. In January they will have a third partner to round out their family.

They chose this kind of life, moving from job to job, because Allie lost her job when the pandemic forced the hospital to shut down their operating room. They started out living in Omaha for 26 weeks. They then decided to come back to Wisconsin to live in Beaver Dam. They had to move in Spring because the landlord wanted to use their cottage for rentals. They now live in Marshall, which is about 1/2 hour drive from Beaver Dam. Their plan is to come back to this area when Elliott starts school.

I was asked by a family member what my husband, Jim, who is gone 8 1/2 years would say if he had known they were gay. He would have accepted them for who they are and whatever kind of life they chose. He loved every one of his grandkids.

I come from a very large family. I have four male relatives who are gay. They are very active in their private lives living with their partners. I believe they are part of the lives chosen by God, not their own choice.

Faith Community Pathways Focus Newsletter September 2021

Prairie Palooza was a huge success! We were blessed with beautiful weather and a fantastic concert from Kendra Swanson. About 80 people joined us and we raised \$635.75 from food purchases and donations to help keep programming free in the future. Thank you to all the volunteers that made this event possible and to Settlers Inn for donating the use of their equipment. Everyone agreed that Prairie Palooza needs to happen every year. It was also suggested that a spring through fall concert series should be planned as a yearly event. Here are some pictures if you weren't able to attend. Thank you, Tom Sear, for the great photos!



Save the Dates!

September 26th at 5:30pm- Playscapes Dedication

Join the land committee in celebrating the completion of phase two construction in Faith Community Pathways. Party starts at 5:30pm with a picnic dinner served at 6:00pm. A short dedication ceremony will follow and we will end the night with a campfire and smores. Please register if you plan to attend. This will help with planning dinner accommodations. Hope to see everyone there! Click link to register or visit faithlutherancedarburg.com.

<https://forms.gle/jFU2HgA6DjepNhj78>

October 10th at 3:00pm- Eagle and Friends Bird of Prey Program

What is a bird of prey? How big is an eagle? Can owls turn their head all the way around? Join us in the prairie for an exciting program all about raptors. The Schlitz Audubon Society will be bringing a handful of birds of prey including the majestic eagle to answer all of our questions about these amazing flying hunters. This program is free and for all ages. Click link to register or visit faithlutherancedarburg.com.

<https://forms.gle/zncCPZudN6pg67SB9>

SUNRISE CIRCLE BEGINS A NEW YEAR

Sunrise Circle will begin a new year of service in September. Although some of the ladies have been working on Quilt Making at church during the summer, we will begin our regular schedule Wednesday, September 1. This group of dedicated ladies meets on the first and third Wednesday of each month to sew and assemble beautiful quilts to be donated to various organizations. Our main focus has been donations to Lutheran World Relief but we have branched out to other organizations in recent years.

On the second Wednesday of the month we have a bible study and organizational meeting with time to visit and enjoy dessert and beverage. We meet September thru May and usually do not meet in the summer. We did meet this summer after the church opened again. Due to Covid, we missed over a year of sewing so it is time to catch up! If this sounds like something you would like to try, please come join us on any of the first three Wednesdays at 9:00 a.m. at Church. We would love to have you join us. No experience necessary . . . BUT we welcome anyone that does have that talent to share with us.



9-2-07	Patrick & Ryanne Lee	14 years
9-6-14	Matt & Dui White	7 years
9-7-78	Herb & Carol Neuer	43 years
9-11-66	Dale & Mary Erickson	55 years
9-12-09	Eric & Moriah Butler	12 years
9-15-18	Kayla & Leo Buser	3 years
9-19-81	Phil & Cindy Dellegrazio	40 years
9-20-86	Bruce & Debra Rappold	35 years
9-27-97	Tom & Kelly Dennison	24 years
9-28-13	John & Jen Wittenberg	8 years
9-30-01	Bradley & Shannon Diamond	20 years



Saturday, September 25

Waukesha County • Ozaukee County
Racine/Kenosha County • **NEW!** Milwaukee County
Virtual Option Available

OFHRRW.org

Join all of your friends on the morning of Saturday, September 25 for the **Outreach for Hope 2021 Ride Run Walk** (formerly the Family Bike Ride), and help FUNdraise \$150K for grants to central city congregations in the Greater Milwaukee Synod!

Starting on July 15, visit OFHRRW.org to register to participate at one of our event sites (each site offers a walk, and road and trail rides unless otherwise noted):

- **Waukesha County:** Dousman/Glacial Drumlin Trail
- **Ozaukee County:** Grafton/Ozaukee Interurban Trail
- **Racine/Kenosha County:** Kenosha/North Shore Bike Trail
- **NEW! Milwaukee County:** WALK ONLY - Washington Park
- **Virtual:** Ride, run, walk, and/or fundraise on your own schedule (7/15 - 9/25; you can register for both the virtual option AND an in-person event)

Registrants will receive a free event t-shirt, and snacks, drinks and a boxed lunch for in-person events. There is NO registration fee -- instead, pay what you can at registration, and/or collect donations from others leading up to the event.

Volunteers are also needed! Visit tinyurl.com/OFHRRWvolunteer or call us at 414-671-1212 to learn more and sign up.

Learn more at OFHRRW.org



Faith Lutheran Church Council Meeting Minutes

August 12, 2021

Members: Pastor John, Tom Sear, Al Gresch, Joe Dorr, Andy Baule, Joyce Caldwell, Amanda Gresch, Esther Rusch

Mission: *Gathered as a community living in God's love we serve all people, care for the earth and embrace the work of the Holy Spirit.*

Vision: *Faith Lutheran Church will be recognized as a community of spiritual growth, a gateway for environmental stewardship, a creator of partnerships and an advocate for social justice and peace.*

- I. Call to Order, Devotion and Opening Prayer: President Tom S called the Zoom meeting to order at 6:30 p.m. Joyce C led a devotion inspired by the recent Ecological Identity presentation at Faith. She presented several readings from Henri J. M. Nouwen's *Bread for the Journey*, in particular: The Hidden Life of Jesus; Hiddenness, a Place of Intimacy; and Hiddenness, a Place of Purification. Pastor then led us in prayer.
- II. Approval of Minutes: On a motion by Joyce C and a second by Esther R, the July 7 Council Meeting Minutes were approved unanimously.
- III. Treasurer's Report / Activities:
 - a. Simplified Monthly Summary: Joe D reviewed the one-page financial report provided by Bookkeeper Judy G.
 - b. Council discussed whether and when additional council action might be needed to address our current financial position. It was decided to wait another month or two (perhaps after the Q3 financial update from Leo) before we take any additional steps.
- IV. Pastor's Report: In addition to his written report, Pastor John added the following comments:
 - a. During Pastor's upcoming vacation, Al Gresch and Julie Ische will be preaching on Aug 22 & 29 respectively.
 - b. Pastor and Fred R are looking for ways to replace some of the mechanical maintenance work that Rick Mallouk has done.
 - c. Pastor introduced the council to the GMS's three-year "Equipping the Saints" fundraising campaign. We watched and discussed a 10 minute video from the GMS. A motion was made by Joe D and seconded by Esther R to commit to the GMS "Equipping the Saints" campaign and to identify leaders to participate in training this fall. Motion passed unanimously.
 - d. 2021 Council Activities: The Executive Committee has drafted a plan for the upcoming Council Retreat on Communication at Faith. Joe D introduced the plan to the council and asked members to give it thought before the retreat. Andy B will not be able to attend and so we will send him materials and request his input. The meeting will be held at church on Saturday, Aug 14 from 9:00 – 12:00.

- V. Discussion of *Becoming a Hybrid Church*: Chapters 3 – 6
 - a. Much of the discussion was around the importance of Social Media in a Hybrid Church and the shortage of Social Media expertise among people at Faith. A heavy focus will need to be made on finding the right people to help lead us in this area. This may include staff as well as volunteers.
 - b. Joe D is attending a six-week webinar series by the authors of *Becoming a Hybrid Church*. He suggested that several of Faith's committees might benefit from the specific webinar session associated with that committee. Joe will contact the leaders of those committees to offer them the appropriate recordings.

- VI. Committees/New/Old Business
 - a. Education/Church in Society – Meeting Aug 10. Minutes have been submitted but council has not yet seen them.
 - b. Evangelism – No Report
 - c. Finance Advisory – No Report
 - d. Land Use – No Report
 - e. Music and Worship: Meeting Aug 3 – Minutes not yet submitted
 - f. Personnel Committee – No Report
 - g. Property Management – Tom S led a discussion of Bat & Mouse Control & a new Tractor.
 - 1. Motion by Joyce C and second by Andy B to direct the Executive Committee to obtain a 2nd bid for bat removal (perhaps from Advanced Wildlife from Mequon) and to make a decision. Funds would come from the Property Management account. Motion passed unanimously.
 - 2. Tom S & Fred R have arranged for purchased of a new John Deere X580 Select Series tractor along with lawn mowing and snow blowing equipment. After trade-in, the total expenditure will be \$6,281, which is well below the \$10,000 budgeted amount.
 - h. Stewardship – Written Report Submitted. Esther R pointed out that this committee has recommended changing the October 2021 Mission of the Month from Young Adults in Global Mission to Lutheran Campus Ministry in the GMS. Motion to accept this recommendation was made by Joyce C and seconded by Joe D. Motion passed unanimously.
 - i. Technology – No Report
 - j. Trust Funds – No Report

- XI. Next Council Meeting: September 9 at 6:00 (NOTE TIME CHANGE) in-person.

- XII. Motion to adjourn was made by Amanda G and seconded by Andy B. Motion passed unanimously. Meeting adjourned at 8:43 p.m.