



Connecting Everyone, Everywhere,  
Everyday with the love and message

[www.faithfreestanley.org](http://www.faithfreestanley.org)

# Faith Family newsletter



Thanksgiving Service and pie social/auction! Please bring one pie to auction and one pie to share. Proceeds to go to help the youth go to Districts in January 2024

**Wednesday, November 22, 6 pm**

Funds collected that night.



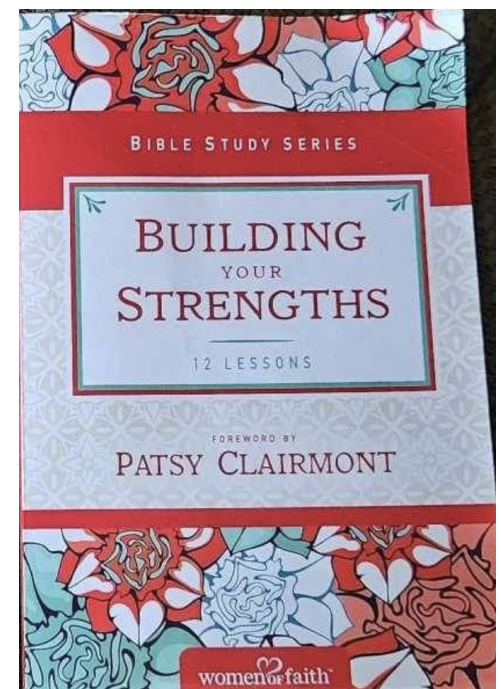
Thank you for all your kind expressions to us this past month! Pastor Matt and Pastor MP

**Women's Ministry Connection** meets November 11 at 9 am and December 9th at 10 am in the lower-level fellowship hall. December 9th will be a special event "A Christmas Tea." No brunch this month. We are asking everyone to bring finger foods (cheese/crackers, Christmas goodie, etc.) Please invite a mother, daughter, sister, friend, etc. There will be singing, fellowship and a special speaker and then snacks, of course!

### Sisters in Christ

We are meeting on Friday mornings from 9:30-11:00 at the church. We are going through a Women of Faith Bible study "Building Your Strengths".

If anyone has questions please call/text Shannon at 715-773-2444 or Tricia Tobola at 715-773-2360.



# Family Birthdays and Anniversaries

## Birthdays:

Nov 2 Alana Walters  
 Nov 7 Jim Thain  
 Nov 8 Rebecca Milliren  
 Nov 11 Dana Carlson  
 Nov 19 Diane Fryza  
 Nov 27 Dave Drehmel  
 Nov 27 Marilyn Westphal  
 Nov 28 Jeff Makovsky  
 Dec 2 Keely Gordon  
 Dec 5 Jim Miles  
 Dec 6 Marta Greenhow  
 Dec 11 Violet Miles  
 Dec 11 Diana Copus

Dec 17 Boden Swope  
 Dec 18 Max Kisling  
 Dec 18 Jim Wielgus  
 Dec 20 Marvin Penick  
 Dec 21 Sarah Alger  
 Dec 22 HazelBelle Lange  
 Dec 27 Easton Shilts

## Anniversaries:

Dec 19 Marvin and Jeanie Penick  
 Dec 28 John and Rebecca Milliren  
 If we are missing some dates, please send to the office.

Scan the QR code to get your own sign in credentials for **RightNow Media** which our church holds a subscription for. It is a wealth of devotionals and kids videos and just such a great encouragement to me as a Christian, wife, mom, grandmother and working woman. But there are a lot of really neat things on here. I hope you enjoy it as much as I do!

Here is the Link: <https://app.rightnowmedia.org/>





Men's Prayer Breakfast's will be November 4th at 7:30 at Jim Gulcynski's cabin. Maps in foyer.

Then December 2nd will be held at Scott Turenne's family cabin in Prentice. There will be carpooling to go there.

# Connection Groups November 12 and December 10

There are groups for all ages. Adult and children meet in the lower level and Youth (Grades 6-12) meet in the youth room. These groups take place on the second Sunday of every month September through April. **New group for 18-25 year old young adults.**

# Connecting with Pastor MP

As the crisp autumn leaves fall and November ushers in a sense of warmth and gratitude, our youth group gathers with excitement and anticipation. The air is buzzing with enthusiasm as we reflect on the wonderful moments shared and the new friendships formed. This month, our youth group family continues to grow, with an increasing number of students joining us every Wednesday night. Let's come together and celebrate the spirit of unity, friendship, and gratitude that defines our November youth group gatherings.

## Wednesday Night Youth Gatherings: A Vibrant Tapestry of Friendship

Our Wednesday night youth gatherings have become a cornerstone of camaraderie and spiritual growth. It's heartening to witness the enthusiasm and energy that our young members bring to each session. The atmosphere is filled with laughter, learning, and support. We've seen a surge in attendance, with students eagerly participating in discussions, games, and activities that inspire personal and collective growth. Together, we are creating a safe space where everyone feels valued, heard, and loved.

Faith Youth Annual Thanksgiving Potluck: November 18, Saturday, Time: 6pm-11pm Location: Fatih Evangelical Free Church

Amidst the falling leaves and the aroma of pumpkin spice, we invite all members of our youth group, their families, and friends to join us in celebrating Thanksgiving together. On November 18th, let's gather for a delightful Thanksgiving potluck party. This event promises an evening of delicious food, heartfelt conversations, and a chance to express our gratitude for the blessings in our lives.

**What to Bring:** To make our potluck party a diverse and scrumptious feast, we encourage everyone to bring a dish to share. Whether it's your grandma's famous stuffing, a homemade pumpkin pie, or a unique cultural delicacy, your contribution will add to the richness of our communal table.

## Embracing the Spirit of Gratitude:

Thanksgiving is more than just a holiday; it's a time to reflect on the blessings in our lives and express gratitude for the people who make our journey special. As a youth group, we are grateful for the friendships we've formed, the lessons we've learned, and the memories we've created together. Let's come together on November 18th to celebrate this spirit of gratitude and share our appreciation for one another.

Matt Peters (Pastor MP)  
Youth and Worship Pastor  
Faith Free Church  
Stanley, WI  
715-644-8591

# Connecting with Pastor Matt

## Who Are we?

It is a very important question. One we must all ask. Who are we? Personally, and corporately. If someone approached, you on the street or at work and asked you to tell them about who you are. How would you answer? What would you say if someone asked for you to tell them about the Church you attend – How would you describe Faith EFC? What would you say?

Too many criticize the church and fail to see their role in living out the values of the Church. It is easier to separate yourself from the church then to take responsibility for an individual role.

So, who are we as Church? Two years ago we have sat down as ministry leaders from Faith EFC and identified values that we believe God would have define us. I wanted to remind us of them. These values are both real and aspirational values that undergird our ministry efforts. Below is how this group answered the question “*Who are we?*”

### ***At Faith we are:***

***Bible believing***

***Grace expressing***

***Family oriented***

***Discipleship focused***

***Ministry equipping***

Please note these are not static values. But are active and ongoing values. This is what we see as our DNA and desire to see us embracing in the years ahead. I look at these values and get excited about what I see and how they will guide us to stay aligned with who we are and called to be. I would say first before you evaluate as to whether we “measure up” ask yourself personally how you “measure up”? Personal evaluation must precede corporate evaluation. It is near impossible for us at Faith EFC to be corporately what we are not pursuing each individually. Our ministry efforts will flow from these values and serve as guide rails so we don’t get off track and pursue ineffective or unfruitful activity. As a church we cannot be all things to all people but we can embrace these values and serve all who God brings into the Faith community. Might we do so for His Glory and Kingdom.

Together For Christ,  
Pastor Matt

## Children's Ministry

This fall is bringing many changes to the children's ministry! First off, I would like to introduce myself. My name is Jaime Barth, I have recently been hired as the Childrens Ministry Coordinator and I am so grateful and blessed to be in this position! A little about me! I was raised up in this church and, also the church school from ages 5 on through 12th grade! I accepted Christ into my life at the age of five. God led me to many mission fields during my high school years. After high school I spent a year in China teaching English in a Christian School. Upon returning I went to UW- Stevens point for Communications Disorders and eventually transferred to UW-Eau Claire and graduated with a focus in Psychology Behavior, Research and Communication Science and Disorders. I also spent a few years teaching in a couple daycares from Birth through school age. I have a wealth of classes and experience in childcare. I am a bible believing, prayer focused, single mom and breast cancer survivor and I am so thankful and excited to be back in the area and to have my little one Charlie Grace who just turned 5 here growing up in this church family as well.

The mission statement of the church states "Faith Evangelical Free Church is made up of a community of believers dedicated to helping connect everyone, everywhere, every day with the love and message of Jesus Christ." My goal is to bring focus to connect everyone to the precious children in this church and local communities. I want to serve those parents that just need a break to fellowship and worship Jesus! I want to serve the parents that want someone to come along and help disciple their children with bible beliefs. I want to serve those parents that want their children to have Godly men and women to help equip them for standing firm in their faith as they grow. To do this I will be asking many high schoolers, men, and women of the church to join me in this goal by helping in the nursery and kid's church. Nursery is up and running again on a regular basis for birth thru 3 years. Kids Church will also begin again starting November 5<sup>th</sup> on the 1<sup>st</sup>, 3<sup>rd</sup>, 4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> Sundays of the month. Kids connection group will be the 2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday of the month. We want to see your kids and grandchildren here!

Kids Club is up and running! We have had up to 22 kids on our Wednesday nights this fall! So fun to see so many young ones running around playing games, coloring, making crafts, memorizing bible verses, worshipping Jesus through songs and reading their bibles. We are currently sharing the stories of Daniel with a focus on we are not alone- God is with us just like he was with Shadrach, Meshach and Abednago in the fiery furnace! This month's bible memory verse is Nahum 1:7 "The Lord is good, a refuge in times of trouble. He cares for those who trust in Him." In addition, the 3<sup>rd</sup> through 5<sup>th</sup> graders have been memorizing the books of the Bible! Don't forget to help and encourage them at home or when you see them around church to remember those verses.

Coming up we have Operation Christmas Child that the kids will be packing boxes to send! Feel free to come and join us packing boxes, Wednesday November 8<sup>th</sup> or to drop of monetary or gift donations by November 1<sup>st</sup>. Let's show our children generosity like Christ gave to us. There will be no Kid's Club Wednesday the 22<sup>nd</sup> of November, but you are invited to our Thanksgiving Service and pie social/auction at 6 pm. Wednesday, December 13<sup>th</sup> will be the Kid's Club Christmas Program at 6 pm. Everyone is welcome to attend. Jesus is the Reason for the Season!

Thankful and Blessed beyond measure!



## Church Cancellation Policy and plan

### Wednesday night activities:

Decision Making: Pastor MP and Jaime Barth will make the decision. Communication will be via flocknote and Facebook.

### Sunday services:

Decision making: Jerry and Pastor Matt will make the decision to cancel or not.

Communication: Lori flocknotes; Jeanie will send email and Facebook post; Loren contact WWIB.

### Other events:

Decision will be made by event coordinator and communication cascaded by event coordinator.



## Lessons from Buddy

“Time to Go”..... Buddy’s tail wags at warped speed raised high in the air. He has his very own signals and most of the time “The Tail Tells!” Did you know that there are professionals who claim to know more about what/how your dog feels based on his/her tail activity. It has a lot to do with the tail wagging fast, slow or someplace in between. Then there is the position of the tail, curled up, straight out or drooping down.

Buddy’s tail was straight up, flying from side to side at an astonishing speed and if you looked closely, I’m pretty sure I saw a smile on his face...I mean mug. For the past half hour, he was studying human activities closely. There was all sorts of movement and smells he observed. Shower running, clean clothes coming out of the closet and the beloved shoes as well. Generally speaking, he was sure this meant “let’s go in the car”, “going bye-bye” and “Buddy get in the back seat”. There could also be a leash and safety harness in the mix.

Unfortunately, “Time to Go” was not going to include him in the upcoming trip. As we got jackets on, his tail started to droop and greatly slowed down – he was getting the picture. “No, Buddy, can’t go” I softly told him! He left the busy kitchen and carefully jumped up onto the couch....his sleeping couch that is. The expectation of the “go in the car” didn’t come and he understood and obeyed. There was no stomping of paws, incessant barking or snarling of teeth. “That’s my good Buddy!” I told him and a quiet pat on the head.

Oh, how I want to learn what Buddy just demonstrated to me! All my expectations can be summed up in thinking that **I am the god of my plans**. Self-centered and strong-willed attitudes run deep. For the most part there is much foot stomping, whining, and grumbling if “my plans” when I get the words “No, not today, Sharon, today we go down this path.” My dear Father God knows oh so much more than I do and has a plan for today's activity.

*Isaiah 2:3 “Come, let us go up to the mountain of the Lord, to the house of the God of Jacob. He will teach us his ways so that we may walk in his paths.”*

*Proverbs 5:21 For a man’s ways are in full view of the Lord, and he examines all his paths.*

*Deuteronomy 10:12-13 And now, O Israel, what does the Lord your God ask for you but to fear the Lord your God, to walk in all his ways, to love him, to serve the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul, and to observe the Lord’s commands and decrees that I am giving you today for your own good?*

# November 2023

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
29 9 Prayer 10 Service	30	31 TU	1 Youth Group Kid's Club	2	3 Sisters	4 7:30 Men's Prayer Breakfast
5 Prayer Service Communion	6	7 TU	8 Elder Meeting Youth Group Kid's Connection	9	10 Sisters	11 9 Women's Ministry Brunch
12 Prayer Service Connection Groups	13	14 TU	15 11:30 Women with Purpose Youth Group Kid's Connection	16	17 Sisters	18 6 Youth Friendsgiving
19 Prayer Service	20	21 TU	22 6 Thanksgiving Service/Pie Social/Auction	23 Thanksgiving	24	25
26 Prayer Service	27	28 TU	29 Youth Group Kid's Connection	30	1 Sisters	2

9:30 Sisters In Christ

6:00 Tuesday University

9:00 Prayer Meeting on Sundays

6:00 Youth Group

6:00 Elder meetings

6:00 Kid's Club

10:00 Worship Service on Sundays

# December 2023

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
26	27	28 TU	29 Youth Group Kid's Club	30	1 Sisters	2 7:30 Men's Prayer Breakfast-Scott Turenne Family Cabin
3 Prayer Service Communion	4	5 TU	6 Youth Group Kid's Club	7	8 Sisters	9 10 Women's Ministry A Christmas Tea
10 Prayer Service Connection Groups	11	12 TU	13 Kid's Club Program	14	15 Sisters	16
17 Prayer Service	18	19 TU	20 Youth Group Kid's Club	21 Elder Meeting	22	23
24 Prayer Service 6 Christmas Eve Service	25 Christmas	26 TU	27 Youth Group Kid's Club	28	29	30
31 Prayer Service	1	2	3	4	5	6

9:30 Sisters In Christ

6:00 Tuesday University

9:00 Prayer Meeting on Sundays

6:00 Youth Group

6:00 Elder meetings

6:00 Kid's Club

10:00 Worship Service on Sundays