

Faith•times

Monthly Newsletter of Faith Lutheran Church and School | July 2026



Pastor Hoepfner's Message

Dear Faith Family,

I recently received a message from someone who shared with me about a devotion he just heard. The devotion talked about the building of the tabernacle and how the Israelites who were formerly slaves in Egypt generously responded to the request for supplies and money. As I reflected on the account from Exodus 36, I couldn't help but think of our sanctuary at Faith, which is the tabernacle where we come face-to-face with the God who has freed us from our slavery to sin so that we can live freely as the children of God who can look forward to our resurrected eternal home.

We are no longer slaves in our country. We all have running water and food on our plates. We have clothes, vehicles, hobbies to explore, and take trips to visit family, friends or go on vacation.

Two months ago, our church received hail damage to our roof. We are in the process of needing to replace our roof. Insurance money goes only so far with a twenty-year-old roof. Over the next couple of months, Faith will be starting a special fund to replace the church's roof.

Just as the Israelites responded generously to the call to provide supplies and gifts for the Tabernacle, I believe we are able to provide supplies and gifts to help support the place where we hear God's Word and receive the gift of His Body and Blood.

Exodus 36:7- For the material they had was sufficient to do all the work, and more.

Blessings,
Pastor Seth

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**Faith Lutheran
Church and School**

Bringing People Together in Faith

*"Raise up a child in the way he should go, and
when he is old he will not depart from his ways."
Proverbs 22:6*

Mission Statement

Faith Lutheran Church and School exists to worship, serve and grow in Jesus Christ.
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LCMS

Announcements

Our English District is launching a new model for funding missions to which every congregation is invited to participate. It is completely voluntary but we believe that as God's people see and hear what is being accomplished specifically and directly in support and development of new missions and enhancing existing missions, more and more of us will want to be involved. This funding model is based on the belief that "there is power and strength in many giving a little." Loving our neighbor includes caring for their spiritual well-being. This is why the need exists for God's people to come together in support of missions that are bearing kingdom fruit. It's simple. Very simple. It is NOT burdensome, nor sacrificial. It involves every baptized member of the Body of Jesus in your congregation, from the newest baby baptized to the oldest member. It demonstrates the power of the beautiful body of Christ working together, prompted by faith. It shows how much can be accomplished by many, giving little. \$1/per baptized member/per week. Simple, right? Self-explanatory almost. Not burdensome, nor sacrificial. All can participate. If every baptized member of our district congregations did ONLY this plan, we could produce \$2.5 million in addition to our district's total budget of \$1.8 million. The numbers are staggering. Just think what else we could do! Through the next year, Faith Lutheran will adapt this new model. There will be a plastic case in the back of the church where the money can be placed. This will replace our current mission of the month program.

- Church Council will meet on Sunday, June 12th at 8 am at Faith.
- Our voter's meeting has been rescheduled to July 12th, following the 9 am service.
- Vacation Bible School is August 3rd—7th from 9-11:30 am. We are in need of some donations and volunteers. Please see the bulletin board in the church to find out how you can help!
- Faith is in need of a new roof. We will start fundraising in the near future. If you have any ideas on fundraising, please contact Korbyn Prust or Tim Nelson.
- Faith will be celebrating our 40th anniversary! Do you have some ideas or want to help plan for some special events? Plans will be made! There is a sign up sheet on the bulletin board or if you have a question contact Kent or Carl.
- Do you have a birthday or anniversary or special event in the future? Would you like to provide treats for fellowship or flowers for the altar? The sign-up sheet is on the bulletin board so pick the day that you would like!
- If you have a prayer request, please call the church office at 920-261-8060.
- If you would like to serve on a cleaning team or be a greeter/usher, please contact Pastor Hoepfner.

Faith • brations

We Celebrate with July Birthdays

Kinsley Nelson	2	Harold Kopplin	20
Audra Uttech	3	Shane Hoepfner	22
Emma Wegner	6	Heidi Smith	27
Joseph Andre	13	Richard Lowe	30
Avery Hoedel	17		



God's Blessings to you!

Faith • full

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- Purchase Scrip Gift cards for your favorite places to shop and the things you use every-day.

You can pick them up in the office or order online any time at <https://www.raiseright.com> our school code 7D4EB33L48L9.

Faith earns a percentage of the money spent.

Contact Beth Stendel for more information at kbdstendel@gmail.com or 920-261-8362

Orders for the month due 7/13 and 7/27 by noon. •

**** Box Tops launched their APP based program and will no longer be making box tops that you will cut out. You will need to download the app and scan your receipt to enter your box tops. If you prefer not to do that, you can bring your receipts into the office and I will scan them using my phone! ****

Every bit helps the church & school!!
THANKS FOR SUPPORTING THESE PROGRAMS

Your offering can be automatically withdrawn weekly, monthly, or even just one time. How convenient is that when you are out of town, but still need to make your offering for the week. Please contact Beth Stendel to get an ACH form that needs to be filled out and on file to do so. We will also have cards in the pew to write down that ONE-TIME offering that you can put in the offering plate if you forgot your checkbook or have no cash on you. You still need to have the ACH paper filled out and on file in order to use the pew cards. Stewardship will still keep track of your giving, just as if it were cash or a check.

Doctrinal Review

Of Conversion

Our refusal to go beyond what is revealed in these two Scripture truths is not "masked Calvinism" but precisely the Scriptural teaching of the Lutheran Church as it is presented in detail in the Formula of Concord: "That one is hardened, blinded, given over to a reprobate mind, while another, who is indeed in the same guilt, is converted again, etc. in these and similar questions Paul fixes a certain limit to us how far we should go, namely, that in the one part we should recognize God's judgment. For they are well-deserved penalties of sins when God so punished a land or nation for despising His Word that the punishment extends also to their posterity, as to be seen in the Jews. And thereby God in some lands and persons exhibits His severity to those that are His in order to indicate what we all would have well deserved and would be worth and worth, since we act wickedly in opposition to God's Word and often grieve the Holy Ghost sorely; in order that we may live in the fear of God and acknowledge and praise God's goodness, to the exclusion of, and contrary to, our merit in and with us, to whom He gives His Word and with whom He leaves it and whom He does not harden and reject...And this His righteous, well-deserved judgment He displays in some countries, nations and persons in order that, when we are placed alongside of them and compared with them, we learn the more diligently to recognize and praise God's pure, unmerited grace in the vessels of mercy.

Prayer Concerns

For our military, the sick, discouraged, & troubled, For those experiencing major life changes like divorce, unemployment or underemployment, difficulty making ends meet. The well being of the church & state, and whatever rests in our hearts.



Stewardship

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LCMS Stewardship Ministry – lcms.org/stewardship Newsletter Article – July 2026
Go ... Sell All You Have? Originally published July 2023

"What must I do to inherit eternal life?" asked the rich young ruler. Jesus said, "You know the commandments." And he replied, "All these I have kept from my youth." And Jesus said to him, "One thing you still lack. Sell all that you have and distribute to the poor, and you will have treasure in heaven; and come, follow me" (Luke 18:18–22).

When we hear this story, this question comes to mind: is Jesus speaking to us also, or only to the rich young ruler? In other words, is Jesus telling us to sell all that we have and give it to the poor?

As good Lutherans, we answer, "No!" But why? Why should we not sell all that we have and distribute it to the poor? The simplest explanation is this: if we sold everything we have, our wife and our children would be neglected. In other words, to sell everything we have and give it to the poor would ignore, even abandon, those whom God has placed in our care. Our money, everything we have, is not to be used solely for the church. But that doesn't excuse us from using our money for the purpose God intends. Everyone has three stations in life, three spheres in which we live and are to be of service to our neighbors. These stations are the church, the family and society. We are members of all three of these by birth. We are born into the church by water and the Word of God, and our duties to others in the church arise from our Baptism into the church. We are born into a family, and our duties to others stem from our birth into that family. Finally, we are born into society, which is simply a further extension of our birth into our family. The duties we have toward other members of society come from either our own birth or the birth of others into the same society.

All that we have and all that we are ought to be pressed into service for the church, the family and society. If we were to sell all we have and give only to one, the other two would be neglected, and we would falter in fulfilling our duties.

So, consider your life and all that you have in light of these three stations. You pay taxes to support and help those in society. You save for college for your children, and provide food, clothing and shelter for the members of your family.

But the station that is usually thought of last is the church. Since the needs of the family and society are more immediate, the church is often given what is left over. This is not how it should be. Rather, we are to give of our first fruits, from off the top, the best, even as Abel gave the best of his flock.

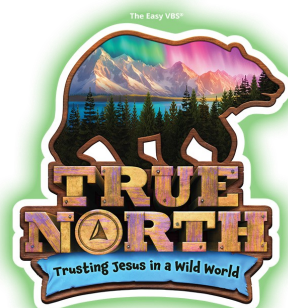
This requires forethought. It means that you sit down and make a plan of what you will give from the beginning. It means sticking to it even when it seems that there are other more immediate and pressing things.

And this is all the more necessary now as we enter into periods of time where giving is low due to high unemployment or where restrictions on meeting in church limit opportunities to give. If we love God and His gifts of forgiveness given through the Means of Grace, which we receive at church and only at church, then we will support it, just as we love our country and our family. For all that we have and all that we are is given to us by our gracious God. He spared no expense for us and our salvation. He gave up His Son to death so that our sins are forgiven, and we will live. What's more, He provides for all that we need for this body and life. And our lives in this world, among these three spheres of church, family and society are to mirror the generosity of the one who gave us life in all three at birth.

Don't let the church, your divine family, be an afterthought or even ignored. It is nurturing you, bringing you up in salvation through Word and Sacrament.

Join us for VBS on August 3rd—7th from
9 - 11:30 am!

To sign up to help, look at the bulletin
board in the church!



Soar on wings like eagles - Isaiah 40:31

Happy Birthday & God's blessings!

7/2 Kinsley Nelson
7/22 Shane Hoepfner

SAVE THE DATE!

- August 3-7th VBS
- August 27th—First Day of School

REGISTRATION
IS NOW OPEN



Registration for the 2026-2027 school year is open!

Turn your registration form and fee of \$125 per child!

Refer a new family to Faith and you will receive a \$100 tuition credit!



July 2026

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
READER/ASSISTANT 7/5 Carl Hoepfner 7/12 7/19 7/26	GREETERS 7/5 The Benninger's & Kay K 7/12 The Prust Family 7/19 The Uttech's & Jim G 7/26 The Benninger's & Kay K	ACOLYTE 7/5 Jasmine Albedyll 7/12 Damon Wegner 7/19 Cara Fessler 7/26 Shane Hoepfner	1	2	3	4
5 9 am service Bible Study	6	7	8	9	10	11
12 8 am Church Council 9 am service Voter's meeting (after service) Bible Study	13 Scrip due by noon	14 Commuter Bible Study 7:30 am @ McDon- ald's in Johnson Creek	15	16	17	18
19 9 am Service Bible Study	20	21	22	23	24	25
26 9 am Service Bible Study	27 Scrip due by noon	28	29	30	31	Door Openers: Mala- chi, Sophia, Shane, Violet & Ben