



Connecting Everyone, Everywhere,  
Everyday with the love and message

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

# Faith Family newsletter

**[NO REGRETS] MEN'S CONFERENCE**

**FEBRUARY 1, 2025**

**COLLOSSIANS 1:13-14**

**RESCUED**

Faith E F Church  
705 Madison  
Stanley, WI

WITH GUEST SPEAKERS:

- JOBY MARTIN
- MATT ERICKSON
- CRAWFORD LORITTS
- SEAN MCDOWELL
- MARK BATTERSON
- GREG STIER
- DAN SEABORN
- STEVE SONDERMAN
- DUSTY DAVIS

\$25 per person  
7:30 am-3:00 pm



Dear Church Family,

Asking God to bless you in return  
for the thoughtfulness you've shown.

Thank you so much for your  
generous gifts. I appreciate your  
warm welcome and kind words!  
Thanks for helping with my move  
to the Stanley-Thorp Community  
and extending your friendship  
to me as I'm settling in.  
Blessings,  
- Isabella

Hi everyone!

Happy New Year!

This has been an eventful year! In August we had our lake day. In September we had our Fall Kick-Off and started up our youth group on Wednesday nights. It's been a great joy working with the youth at Faith Free Church! We've recently been going through the Old Testament and looking at the prophecy and foreshadowing of Jesus Christ. God has been using the youth in so many incredible ways to serve and bless our church community via the worship team, ushering on Sunday mornings, and volunteering in many ways. I am so excited for this next year! Here are a few things coming up: First, we will be meeting for youth again on January the 8th. Second, students will be leaving for Districts at noon on Friday the 10th. Third, our Annual Youth Lock-in will be sometime in late February (dates to be determined). I am so excited to see what all God will do this year through the youth and volunteers. Please continue to pray for the youth and worship ministry as we enter into 2025! Blessings, Isabella Andrews

## Sisters in Christ

We are meeting on Friday mornings from 9:00-10:30 at the church. Any women are welcome to join us. If anyone has questions please call/text Shannon at 715-773-2444.

# Family Birthdays and Anniversaries

## Birthdays:

Jan 1 Pastor Matt Miklasz  
 Jan 1 Colleen Nowobielski  
 Jan 2 Jeriame Czubakowski  
 Jan 7 Edlyn Wundrow  
 Jan 9 David Lane  
 Jan 11 Angela Hertz  
 Jan 16 Jaime Barth  
 Jan 18 Jack Kolpien  
 Jan 24 Adelyn Natzke  
 Jan 24 Briella Pelekoudas  
 Jan 25 Sandra Isaacs  
 Jan 27 Brent Hanson  
 Jan 30 Karyn Nitz  
 Jan 31 Kellen Lechleitner  
 Jan 31 Esther Unterschuetz  
 Feb 2 Cyndy Miklasz  
 Feb 7 Gabe Swope  
 Feb 8 Evelyn Czubakowski

Feb 10 Maya Milliren  
 Feb 11 Aro Greenhow  
 Feb 15 Zachary Ciszak  
 Feb 18 Edwin Lane  
 Feb 20 Debra Makovsky  
 Feb 20 Tina Krizan  
 Feb 23 Kaylee Krizan  
 Feb 26 Braden Ciszak  
 Feb 27 Sandra Davidson  
 Feb 27 Amanda Swope  
 Feb 28 Randall VanDeLoo  
 Feb 28 Bennett Rucker

## Anniversaries:

Jan 23 Greg and Laurie Natzke

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 will be cancelled for February because February 1st will be No Regrets Men's Conference. Sign up at [www.faithfreestanley.org](http://www.faithfreestanley.org).

# Connection Groups

## January 12 and February 9

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.

Hi – Lites from the LIVE NATIVITY ~ December 15<sup>th</sup>, 2024



We were so pleased to see such a great turn out - around 120 people attended. It was so good hearing all the reminiscing of those who had been a part of the Faith Christian Academy's Live Nativities of the past. That is what we pray for this generation of kids, that the reenacting of the true story of Christ's birth and His great love for them will always be remembered.



Lorraine Westaby provided the animals for the nativity, (pictured with her 2 miniature horses). The children prayed the morning of the program that Mrs. Westaby would be able to bring the animals. The roads

were quite icy and she wasn't sure she'd be able to even get the animals loaded to bring in. God heard their prayer. The ice melted and the animals made it! The stable helpers, Roman Damiani and Bennett Stumpner, on each side of Mary (Charlie Poehls) and Joseph (Jaxon Stokes) are guarding the 2 sheep (behind them) and the 2 goats named Jack and Jill.

Lenny Barth built this stable around 35 years ago for Faith Christian Academy's Live Nativities. He got in on reinforcing and setting up once again. We are so grateful for his help and to be able to use the stable again!



Our narrators: Lisa Smoczyk (on the left) and Lois Walters.

Lois is standing in front of the 2 Inns, built by Matt and Bill Badzinski.

Below is Chloe Migala telling Joseph (Jaxon Stokes) and Mary (Charlie Poehls) there is no room in the inn.



Roman Soldier (TJ Tobola) informing all citizens to go to their town of birth.

Angel Gabriel (Amira Bartelt) telling the frightened shepherds the Good News. Shepherds (Cal Samplawski, Nolan Alger, Benson Stumpner) behind her.

Cast and Choir ready to go!

Many thanks to Jaime Barth launching and



coordinating this event. Thanks to Tricia Tobola for leading the music, Brent Hanson and Jackson Swope for running the sound, and all those who pitched in to set it all up and take down! A 'shout out' to Kate Bartelt for working with the angels for the angel worship dance. Thanks to the youth for serving refreshments, for those that donated cookies, and to all those praying for the leaders and kids. We are so blessed to have a church family that works together in such unity.

All for Him,  
Laurie Thain





## Operation Christmas Child

Thank you to all that made this years Operation Christmas Child a success. As a church we packed 88 boxes this year and as a drop off center we took in just under 300 boxes! As a missional church I love that we are able to do this small part to help share the gospel to children around the world. This ministry is not just a once-a-year ministry but truly a year-round ministry. Donations can be bought and dropped off anytime throughout the year in anticipation of next year's packing party. Every box packed is equal to one child or family learning about Jesus. The youth and the children of the church will be following a few of the boxes to see where they go. I have enjoyed watching our children getting excited about sharing with others and my heart was filled with the letters some of the older kids wrote to the children receiving the boxes. If you are interested in more information or how you can help out please contact me anytime.

**Our boxes went to Malawi, Africa!!!!**





## Children's Ministry

As I reflect on this past year all I can think of is growth! Not only for myself and the kids but also for the children's ministry in a whole. It's been an exciting year with lots of new faces and families joining our church family. My prayer is that we can continue to grow as a ministry right alongside the children and families in the church. I ask you to commit to praying for that as well.

One thing God has been reiterating in my life is that we are all here for a purpose. Life can be fragile but yet we are all here. Do you ever think about what God has you here to do? How many days do I waste not doing the work He has for me? I'm not going to lie it took a lot for God to get my attention a few years ago. There are defining moments in our lives that can change everything. When I was diagnosed with an aggressive stage 3 cancer at 36 weeks pregnant God got my attention. I know that He has me in the exact spot I am supposed to be helping to teach not only my daughter about God and His Word but also yours! Thank you for allowing me the privilege to work with your children!

Jaime Barth

Children's Ministry Coordinator



# Connecting with Pastor Matt

## Faith Free on a Mission

*1 In my former book, Theophilus, I wrote about all that Jesus began to do and to teach 2 until the day he was taken up to heaven, after giving instructions through the Holy Spirit to the apostles he had chosen. 3 After his suffering, he presented himself to them and gave many convincing proofs that he was alive. He appeared to them over a period of forty days and spoke about the kingdom of God. 4 On one occasion, while he was eating with them, he gave them this command: "Do not leave Jerusalem, but wait for the gift my Father promised, which you have heard me speak about. 5 For John baptized with<sup>[a]</sup> water, but in a few days you will be baptized with<sup>[b]</sup> the Holy Spirit." 6 Then they gathered around him and asked him, "Lord, are you at this time going to restore the kingdom to Israel?" 7 He said to them: "It is not for you to know the times or dates the Father has set by his own authority. 8 But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit comes on you; and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth."*

### **Acts 1:1-8**

As the risen Lord stood before His disciples they seemed very concerned about the future. Wouldn't you? They had walked three years with Jesus – the Savior. They witnessed many miracles, their hearts had been pierced by His Words, seen Him journey to the cross. They then watched from distance as Jesus was crucified. At this their hopes were dashed. I am sure they wondered what now? What does our future hold now?

I am sure they didn't anticipate things would turn out the way they did. Although, several times Jesus told them He had to go to Jerusalem and die and three days later He would rise from the dead. One such instance we find in Gospel of Matthew.

*22 When they came together in Galilee, he said to them, "The Son of Man is going to be delivered into the hands of men. 23 They will kill him, and on the third day he will be raised to life." And the disciples were filled with grief.*

### **Matthew 17:22-23**

Yet it sure seems they forgot. In Acts 1 they are concerned about what future holds and if Jesus was ushering in at that time the consummation of His Kingdom. Jesus answers their question by stating, *"It is not for you to know times or seasons that the Father has fixed by His own authority."*

Jesus is clear that their mind was going in the wrong direction. While they were looking for final restoration of Israel Jesus turned their thoughts to the transformation of both Jew and Gentile. God had a bigger plan and a clear call. Jesus didn't want them to be caught up in the future so as to forget the urgency of the moment.

Jesus states instead of getting occupied with the future be engaged in the mission He calls them to. He states this succinctly in Acts 1:8. *"You shall be my witnesses in Jerusalem and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth."*

Instead of future questions and concerns they were to focus on being a witness to the love and message of Jesus Christ. His love is seen in His life, death and resurrection. His message is that to all who believe He gives the right to become Children of God. They were to be witnesses to this reality.

This is a word and challenge to us as Faith Free. There is much fear and concern about the future. Questions abound. What about the economy? Is my job secure? Does government offer any help? How can I afford to retire? Will my health hold out? Just what does the future hold? Legitimate questions and concerns and while needing to address these in some measure it is not our call to pave out the future and answer all the questions. What is our call as believers is to engage in Christ's mission. If you are not sharing Christ and building up His body frankly you're not fulfilling His call to you as a Christian. No other pursuit should replace this call. It is a divine mandate.

Jesus says before you let these concerns wrap themselves around your mind, go and be my witness!! Faith Free that is what God is saying to us. "Faith Free go be my witness. Witness to my love and grace. Don't hold back. Get moving. Go to all in your sphere of influence. Do it NOW." Born out of these convictions has been birthed our mission statement.

**Connecting  
Everyone – Everywhere-Everyday  
with the love and message of Jesus Christ.**

Yes, we all face questions about the future with many challenges. But let's be about His mission. Together Faith Free let us reach out together and share the love of Christ seen in His saving work and His message that He will by His grace save those who come to Him in faith. Let's Go!



## Pastor Matt's New Book

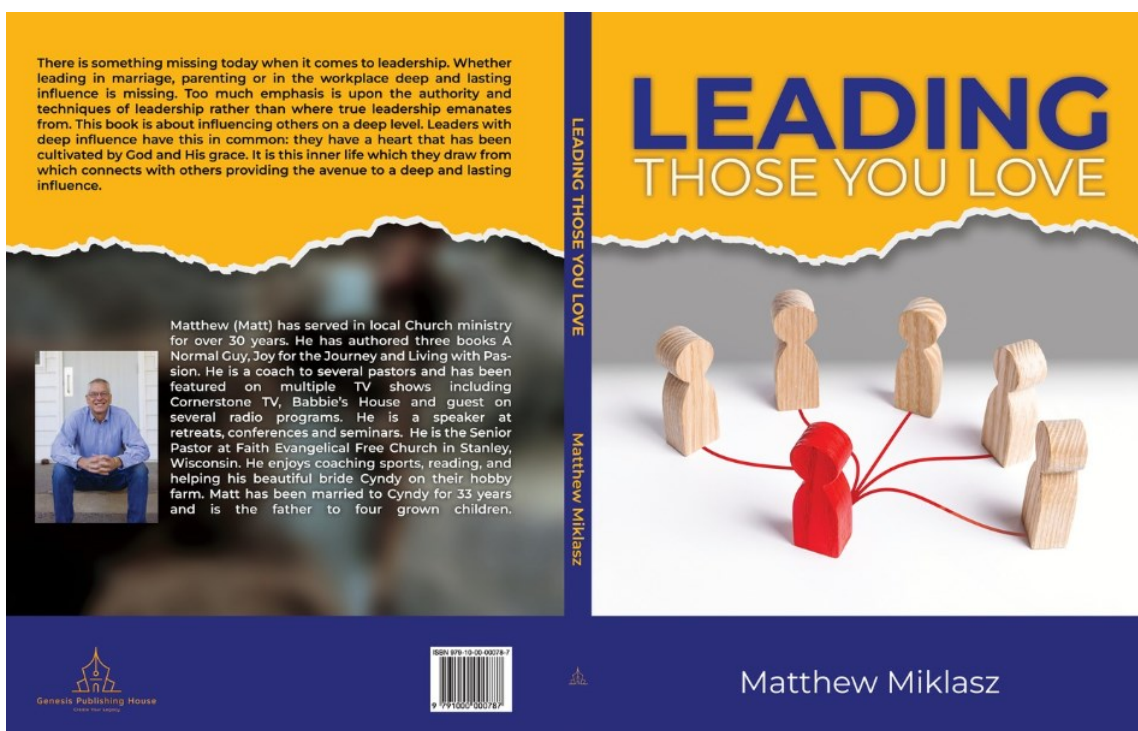
### Editorial Review of "Leading Those You Love"

In the renowned book, "Leading Those You Love" authored by Matthew Miklasz, the readers embark on a powerful journey of understanding one's leadership potential in personal life and relationships. Miklasz sensitively interweaves practical wisdom, deep emotional intelligence, and profound understanding of leadership principles to share an uplifting guide on leading our loved ones to thrive and succeed.

This insightful book pivots around the notion that everyone has the capacity to be a leader in their personal relationships—be it with spouse, children, workplace teams and church relationships. Unlike traditional leadership books focused solely on corporate or political scenarios, "Leading Those You Love" propels you into a new realm where personal bonds and emotional leadership are elucidated with grace and empathy.

Miklasz shows us that leadership is not about accumulating power and dictating terms, but about creating an environment of respect, understanding, open communication, and genuine care. Filled with thought-provoking anecdotes, relatable examples, and practical tips, the book offers readers the essential tools to navigate their personal relationships with confidence and compassion.

This book challenges you to rethink leadership. Leadership isn't merely for the boardroom; it's for homes, friendships, and families. It's about leading the way to healthier, happier lives for our loved ones and ourselves. By understanding and applying the principles of leadership in our personal relationships, we can foster connection, inspire growth, and influence the lives of those we care for most.



Infused with Miklasz's earnest and heartfelt writing, "Leading Those You Love" will inspire readers to embrace their inherent leadership qualities, leading their loved ones with compassion, empathy, and, importantly, love.

## Missionary Moments....

Mike, Xiaoyan, Benji, Joy, Esther & Faith Unterscheutz – Sharing Christ in Mexico

Mike has been preaching and teaching in several different churches, with his focus on ministering and encouraging church leaders in God's word. Benji was asked if he would do music every Sunday for worship at another church. Xiaoyan and the girls are teaching Sunday School on Friday night and Sunday mornings in a village church near Reynosa. Even little Faith is helping by handing out craft supplies to the children. Xiaoyan says thanks to all who helped with the crafts they are using and for praying. "You are all a blessing here in Reynosa." She has had a base group of about 45 children and is encouraged to see them "growing in knowledge and faith" in Jesus. Her Bible lessons, I will call the "I AM" series – I Am who I Am, I AM the good shepherd, I AM the true vine, I AM the gate, I AM the Light, I AM the Living water.

This one is my favorite. Can you tell which lesson? Yes, I AM the Good Shepherd and notice he is counting His sheep! And we **know** He will search until He finds that missing one.



Here the children are building a sheepfold out of Legos, teaching the children there is only one way in – "I AM the door, no one comes to the Father, except through me"

Xiaoyan had the opportunity to share with about 30 women. She says, "The Spirit of God moved in mighty ways and so much healing took place."

They are planning to leave for home on the 31<sup>st</sup> of December and should be back home around January 4<sup>th</sup>. It will be good to have them back with us again!





## Missionary Moments....

**Joy VandeLoo** – serving with Campus Crusade with Christ in the University Wisconsin LaCrosse  
Joy's prayer is, " Lord, please lead me to the person you want me to talk to, today." And God answers. She has been meeting regularly for prayer and Bible study with three students on campus this past year. She asks for prayer:

That God would protect students as they will be away from fellowship over winter break

Winter Conference Jan 2<sup>nd</sup>-6<sup>th</sup>, that more students would sign up to come

God would supply needed monthly support

Joy is short in monthly support by \$388. If God prompts you to give to this mission, you can submit online at: [give.cru.org/1091768](https://give.cru.org/1091768) or a gift by mail to her: 2010 Steele St , Apt 201 LaCrosse, WI 54601 Just a note, would be great encouragement to her.



## Church Cancellation Policy and plan

### Wednesday night activities:

Decision Making: Isabella Andrews and Jaime Barth will make the decision. Communication will be via flocknote and Facebook. Typically if Stanley-Boyd schools are closed we will not have Wednesday night activities.

### 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.

Dec 2024							See below for time of events							Feb 2025						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S								S	M	T	W	T	F	S
1	2	3	4	5	6	7														1
8	9	10	11	12	13	14								2	3	4	5	6	7	8
15	16	17	18	19	20	21								9	10	11	12	13	14	15
22	23	24	25	26	27	28								16	17	18	19	20	21	22
29	30	31												23	24	25	26	27	28	

# JAN 2025

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
	29	30	1	2	3	4
			New Year's Day			Men's Prayer Breakfast
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
Communion		Tuesday U	Elders/Youth Group/Kid's Club		Districts	Districts
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
Connection Groups		Tuesday U	WWP Youth Group Kid's Club			First Aid/ CPR/AED Training
19	20	Tuesday U	22	23	24	25
	ML King Day		Elders/ Youth Group/ Kid's Club			
26	27	28	29	30	31	1
		Tuesday U	Youth Group/ Kid's Club			

9:30 Sisters In Christ

6:30 Tuesday University

9:00 Prayer Meeting on Sundays

6:00 Youth Group

6:00 Elder meetings

6:00 Kid's Club

9 am First Aid/CPR/AED training

11:30 Women With Purpose

10:00 Worship Service on Sundays



Jan 2025

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
			1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30	31	

See below for time of events

FEB 2025

Mar 2025

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
						1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30	31					

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
26	27	28	29	30	31	1
		Tuesday U				No Regrets Men's Conference
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
Communion		Tuesday U	Youth Group/ Kid's Club			
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
Connection Groups		Tuesday U	Elders Youth Group/ Kid's Club			
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
Potluck	Presidents' Day	Tuesday U	WWP Youth Group/ Kid's Club			
23	24	25	26	27	28	1
		Tuesday U	Elders Youth Group/ Kid's Club			

9:30 Sisters In Christ

6:00 Elder meetings

6:00 Tuesday University

9 am First Aid/CPR/AED training

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