

FAITH NOTES



From The Pastor...

Peace be with you!

On May 15th and 16th, members from across the Southeastern Iowa Synod gathered at First Lutheran Church in Cedar Rapids for our annual Synod Assembly. Synod Assembly is basically a large-scale version of our own annual meeting. We listened to reports from various committees and leaders, participated in Bible study, and worshipped together. We also voted on things like the budget for 2027, elected new synod council members, committee members, and adopted constitutional amendments.

This sort of stuff happens every year, but this year's assembly was unique because it was a bishop election year. In the ELCA, bishops are elected to serve a term of 6 years, and they are allowed to serve 2 terms. In 2020, Amy Current was elected as bishop of the Southeastern Iowa Synod. And at this year's Synod Assembly, she was re-elected for a second term! When Bishop Current addressed the assembly after being re-elected, she expressed deep gratitude and joy for the opportunity to continue in this call.

Join me in praying for Bishop Current and the whole Synod Staff, that they continue to discern where God is calling the Southeastern Iowa Synod for these next 6 years and beyond.

Peace,
Pastor Katie

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Office Hours: Mon.-Thurs.
9a.m.-1p.m.

Sunday School: 8:45 a.m.
Sundays Sept.-April

Sunday Worship: 9 a.m.

Welcome to the Curious Christian Children (CCC) Corner of our newsletter! Each month, we will use this space to give a little update on our work throughout this program. As a reminder CCC is a 9-month program that focuses on including children in worship and prayer, especially children with disabilities. For more information about the CCC, check out last month's newsletter!

In May, Megan and I travelled to North Carolina for the CCC kickoff event. During these few days, we did A LOT of listening. One speaker talked about where we see children in the Gospels and how that has impacted how the church includes children. Jesus says the Kingdom of God belongs to the little children, so of course church belongs to little children too! Another speaker introduced us to Design Thinking, which is a way of looking at complex problems creatively to unlock new perspectives, ideas, and solutions. The third speaker helped us dive into child development, paying special attention to the way neurodiversity intersects with development.

Overall, this kickoff event was a lot of foundational learning. But we were also given opportunities to really connect with the rest of the cohort. There are 11 congregations participating in this first cohort. We are from across the whole country, coming all the way from Washington, California, Arizona, Texas, Minnesota, Virginia, Pennsylvania, Maryland, and of course, Iowa. One thing that we thought was cool is that Faith is the only rural church in the cohort, so we bring a unique perspective to the conversations. Megan and I truly feel like we have learned so much already and are so excited to continue meeting with this group, gathering ideas, trying new things, and focusing on ways that our church can best serve the children in our community!

- Pastor Katie



The cost of postage is increasing once again. Did you know you can receive our monthly newsletter through email? Help us save on postage by filling out a form in the entryway and place it in the offering box or email Jamie in the office, flcandover@gmail.com, and let her know you want to be added to the newsletter email list or if you no longer wish to receive news from Faith. Be sure to check your spam folder as our email tends to find its way there.

Mission

Statement:

“We are a welcoming people of God, striving to reflect Jesus Christ’s love and grace, and open to the work of the Holy Spirit.”

CHURCH COUNCIL

President: Tricia Perron

Vice President: Andra Eggers

Secretary: Jessica Howard

Treasurer: Jeanette Bennett

Worship: Kelli Parker

Faith Formation/Education: Dawn Popelka

Property & Management: Brad Peters & James Wilke

Stewardship & Outreach: Barb Randolph

Community Life & Care: Julie Peters

1st Place Recipe from Zucchini Cook-Off

Blueberry Zucchini Cake with Lemon Buttercream provided by Julie Peters

Ingredients:

3 eggs	3 cups flour
1 cup vegetable oil	1 t. salt
1 T. vanilla	1 t. baking powder
2 ¼ Cup sugar	¼ t. baking soda
2 cups shredded zucchini	1 pint blueberries tossed in 1 t. flour

Lemon Buttercream:

1 cup butter at room temperature
4 cups powdered sugar
Juice of one lemon

Instructions:

- Set Oven to 350 degrees
- Lightly grease and flour a 9 x 13" baking pan
- Beat the eggs, oil, vanilla and sugar until well blended. Fold in zucchini
- Whisk the flour, salt, baking powder and baking soda to combine. Slowly add to the wet mixture, mixing just enough to combine.
- Fold in blueberries and pour into prepared pan
- Bake for about 50 minutes or until toothpick inserted in the center comes out clean.
- Thoroughly cool on a wire rack before frosting.
- Beat butter until smooth and fluffy. Gradually beat in powdered sugar 1 cup at a time. Add lemon juice. Adjust texture with additional powdered sugar or lemon juice if desired.
- Frost. Garnish with blueberries if desired.
- Store in refrigerator.



Have a new recipe you've been wanting to try? Fellowship is the perfect place to find taste testers! Summer fellowship continues following worship. Contact Julie Peters to sign up.

Keep it simple! Fellowship is meant to connect with friends and visitors. Snacks just make it even more fun!

2nd place Zucchini Cook-Off Recipe

Egg Spinach Zucchini Casserole provided by Marcy Wilcke

6 eggs - beat
¾ onion - cook in 1 Tbs. margarine
¼ cup flour
stir in 16 oz. cottage cheese
½ pkg spinach - cooked & chopped
½ cup grated zucchini
3 Tbs. margarine melted
salt/pepper
1 ½ up cheddar cheese
Mix all. Place in 9x13 pan. Top with ½ cup cheddar cheese.
Bake at 350 degrees for 45 minutes.



Pastor John Meyer has reached out to Faith to share that he has three published books, another soon to be out. If you would like information about them. Please send him your email address: friarmeyerwine@alyrica.net

Faith Lutheran Church Women News & Events June 2026

June 2: FLCW Bible Study 6:30pm

Hostess: Sharon Jepsen home
Bible Study: Virginia Eggers

June 8-12th - VBS

FLCW will help in any way.
Contact Faith Lutheran (@563) 682-7629
8:45 am – 11:45 am

June 21: Fathers Day Fellowship

Sunday Sundae
Bette Petersen and Tricia Perron

Mark Your Calendar

July 16-19

ELCA Triennial Gathering
in Des Moines, IA

I am Worthy

- * Powerful Worship Experiences
- *Inspiring Speakers
- *Engaging Workshops
- 5k run/walk

Contact Virginia Eggers for all details and sign up forms.

All are Welcome

Save the Date!

Tentative Road Trip

Wednesday, August 5, 2026

9:30 am – Meet at Clinton Public Library

- Makerspace

10:30 – Dawn reads Hank the Bank at Storytime

10:50- Memory Lab

11:30 – Library Tour

12:30 – Corner Deli for lunch

2:00 – Clinton Co Jail Tour by Megan Govier

Quilt & Lap Robes Update



A big thank you to everyone and our confirmation youth who helped at FLCW sewing days.

32 total quilts and Lap Robes were given out to several individuals and area agencies.

- Babies (1st in the Family)
- Home bound
- Camp Courageous
- Synod Assembly
- Lutheran Social Services
- Genesis VNA
- Eagle Point Nursing
- The Pregnancy Center
- Information & Referral Services
- YWCA Empower

2nd place Zucchini Cook-Off Recipe (Tie)

Chocolate Zwirl Zucchini Cake

provided by Virginia Eggers

Set oven to 350. Grease 11x17x2 cake pan. Bake 20-40 minutes until toothpick in center test done.

Step 1: 3 cups flour
½ cup unsweetened cocoa powder
2 t. baking soda
1 t. salt
Sift ingredients together.

Step 2: 3 cups white sugar
1 ½ cups canola oil
3 eggs
In large mixing bowl, beat sugar and oil until smooth, add eggs one at a time. Beat to combine.

Step 3: 3 cups zucchini
1 t. vanilla
Mix into wet ingredient.

Step 4: 1 cup buttermilk and sifted dry ingredients: mix or stir ¼ flour mixture and ¼ cup of buttermilk alternating until incorporated. Beat for 1 minute and pour into greased pan. (Topping)

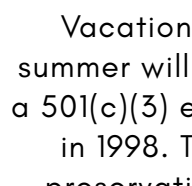
Step 5: 8 oz. softened cream cheese
¼ cup sugar
1 egg
Beat together until smooth

Step 6: Dollop by spoonfuls over cake and swirl with table knife. Top with 1 cup mini chocolate chips.

Andover Kinderfest
is back!

Mark your calendar
for Saturday,
September 5, 2026!

Follow the Andover
Kinderfest Facebook
page for details
and schedule of
events.



Vacation Bible School and Noisy offerings collected over the summer will be given to Living Lands & Waters. This organization is a 501(c)(3) environmental organization founded by Chad Pregracke in 1998. The organization's mission is to aid in the protection, preservation, and restoration of the natural environment of the nation's major rivers and their watersheds. From its single-boat beginning, LL&W has grown to an industrial-strength, internationally known organization with a fleet of barges and workboats.

To date, LL&W has removed over 14 million pounds of debris from America's rivers, engaged over 137,000 volunteers in hands-on initiatives, planted over 2 million trees, and educated over 30,000 students through free educational workshops. For more information, visit www.livinglandsandwaters.org



Do you like to work in the garden? Join a text group to get information! We have many members tending to our community garden and they will be communicating when someone has weeded, watered and done other garden work in the group text. Contact Denise Schroeder or the office to be added to the group!

1. Kelli Parker
2. Natalie Spooner
3. Caleb Petersen
7. Carter Randolph
8. Kendyl Perron
9. Richard Feddersen, Eden Schroeder
10. Jack Smith, Anna Friedrichsen
13. Caleb Gruhn
15. Jan Gray, Jasper Luckritz
17. David Rathje, Emma Butt, Ella Butt, Ellis Sexton
19. Dawn Popelka
23. Claire Johnson, Dennis Johnson
25. Ed Junge, Quinten Schroeder
26. Michelle Jacobs
27. Finley Wilke, Tracy Frahm



JUNE BIRTHDAYS

Council minutes are available to help you stay in the know. Join our email list for approved minutes to be sent to you by contacting the office.

Please notify the office for any new contact information. Information can be emailed to flcandover@gmail.com

Scan the QR Code to give online



2. Bob & Dianne Levetzow
5. Gerald & Cathy Caven
8. Wes & Brenda Ehlers
9. Dustin & Amanda Rickertsen
10. Kevin & Patti Diercks
14. Willis & Glorianne Greve
17. Todd & Barb Randolph
19. Allen & Nancy Christiansen
28. Dick & Judy Petersen
30. Chuck & Barb Corr

Faith Lutheran Church has a prayer chain that sends prayer requests to a list of people for those who invite prayers upon themselves or others. In respect of people's privacy, we ask that you get permission from them before adding their name to the prayer chain. If you would like to be added to the list to pray, please contact the office.



Our sympathy to the family of Lester Marshall who passed away May 10th.



Save the date!
Austin's Army Blood Drive will be held
Friday, August 7th.

Do you have a special event or announcement? Please contact the church office if you would like the announcement in the weekly announcements or newsletter. Due to policies set in place, you **must** contact the office.