Faith Notes

October 2024

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."

What is the ELCA?

Faith Lutheran Church has been part of a few denominations in its history. We began as a mission start in the (old) American Lutheran Church. In the 60's we changed to the American Lutheran Church (ALC), and in 1988 we joined the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America (ELCA) when the ALC merged with two other Lutheran denominations. Today, the ELCA has over 2,500,000 members in 8,500+ congregations across the United States. Because of its size the ELCA is divided into "three expressions of the same Church."

Churchwide is headquartered in Chicago at the Lutheran Center. There, our Presiding Bishop, Elizabeth Eaton, works with hundreds of others to be the national and international arm of our church. We have 25 colleges and universities, 7 seminaries, and more than 2,000 other schools/early childhood education centers, campus and outdoor ministries, and social service agencies. ELCA World Hunger and Lutheran World Relief sends millions of dollars annually to people and communities in need. And as a member of the Lutheran World Federation, we are tied together with **77 million Lutherans worldwide!** Churchwide does a lot on our behalf, and it is hard work to represent 8,500+ congregations.

Next are the Synods. Synod is a funny word meaning to "gather or meet together." There are 65 synods in the ELCA, ranging in size from covering entire states to just one city. Synods exist to give local leadership and connection between congregations. Our synod, the Southeastern Iowa Synod, has 134 congregations across 38 counties in Iowa. We don't often see the work our synod staff does. We tend to only call on them when we want something or need help, but synod staff works behind the scenes lifting up new leaders, assisting with congregational vitality, furthering ecumenical relationships, creating resources for leaders, offering workshops, and so much more.

Finally, are the individual congregations. Faith Lutheran is one of 8,500+ congregations just like it across the United States. Some are larger and some are smaller, some like traditional worship and others like contemporary music, but together we are the church. We share the Gospel of Jesus with those in our communities whether they're urban, suburban, rural, or otherwise!

Our church, the ELCA, is the largest Lutheran denomination in the United States. And like the rest of the United States, there exists within us a spectrum of beliefs, both politically and theologically. In the pews at Faith Lutheran on Sunday morning you sit with Democrats, Republicans, the politically uninterested, theological progressives, and diehard traditionalists. The Church is at its best when we exist *together* as the Body of Christ. Not blindly ignoring our differences but seeking first what we

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have in common—that we are all beloved children of God for whom Christ died despite our sins and we love our church family.

If you want to learn more about the ELCA and our beliefs, I strongly recommend *not* getting your information from the media or social media. Instead, ask me! Or look up the Synod or ELCA websites. It's always best to go to the source.

I know the Church has its flaws and yet I love it. I am proud to be an ELCA Lutheran as we *together* seek to share the Good News of Jesus Christ with all those we meet. Plus, Lutherans have the best food 😊 What do you love about the Church? -Anthony

Our annual Pumpkin Picking will be Sunday, October 6th! Worship will be outside at 10 a.m. that day and it will also be a Youth Led Service by our Sunday School kids. Following worship there will be hot dogs and s'mores by the garden. Be sure to bring a chair!

Mark your calendars for Reformation/Confirmation Sunday on October 27th when Pr. Lynn (Gray) Erickson will be our guest preacher, and we confirm three of our youth! A cake reception will follow worship.

It's time to say good-bye! Anthony and Riley have been Called to congregations in the Northwestern Illinois Synod! Anthony's last day at Faith will be Sunday, October 20th. Join us for fellowship following worship as we wish them well on their new adventure.

Fall Supper Planning Underway

Faith will host our annual fall supper on Sunday, November 10, 2024 from 3-7pm. It will be parking lot pick up only. To provide this meal for our community, we need many helping hands!

Apple, pumpkin and chocolate desserts are needed along with volunteers to help serve throughout the night.

Please contact Julie Peters, 563-219-1957 or the church office, 563-682-7629, if you are willing to provide a dessert or lend a hand. Sign up sheets at the church and an online link on our Facebook page will be available in the coming weeks

Know of any students looking for volunteer hours? Send them our way too!

2024 Church Council

President: Chuck Corr

Vice President/ Financial Secretary: Andra Eggers

Secretary: Tait Wilson

Treasurer: Jeanette Bennett

Worship: Mollie Galusha

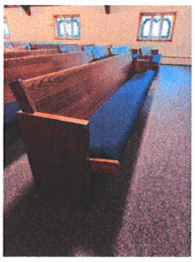
Faith Formation/ Education: Craig Fredrich

Property & Management: Tim Hess

Stewardship & Outreach: Barb Randolph

Community Life & Care: Beth Petersen

Fellowship



Pews Available!
As part of our continued work to make the sanctuary and building accessible to people of different abilities, we are looking to remove the front pew on each side of the sanctuary. This will provide more space to move around and help significantly during funerals. We'd like to first offer these pews, free of charge, to members of the church! If you're interested in one or both, please contact the church office. If there is no interest by October 7th, we will list them on Facebook marketplace.

Council continues its deliberation on purchasing a building for additional storage. As we compile a list of what might go in it, we're curious, do *you* have any items you're storing for Faith Lutheran? If so, please let Deana or a member of Council know. So far, we know of: 3 big crosses and bases, outdoor nativity display set with stable, drive through nativity props and signs, pallets, spotlight nativity, tables, coat racks.

We are using Sign Up Genius as a new way to sign up for fellowship. This is an online site and you are able to see what dates are available or if someone has already signed up. If you want to sign up but don't have online access or would like the link, contact Beth Petersen, 563-593-2579. As a reminder, we do not need to have a huge spread. Just coffee, lemonade, water and a snack or two is all that is needed. We are thankful to those who serve! Fellowship with others is a wonderful way to connect and check in with members of our congregation.

Connect with us:

We want to connect with you!
At worship on Sunday mornings, you will see new Connect Cards placed in each pew. Visitors are encouraged to fill out their information to help us get to know you. Members who have new contact information can fill them out to be updated in the office. Do you have a prayer request? Fill out the back side of the card. Cards can be placed in the offering box as you leave worship.

Blessing of our Youth Leaders

The kids did a scavenger hunt with Anthony around the church.

Our noisy bucket offering for September is being given to the Andover Fire Department. Their volunteers gave a tour of their trucks and what they do for the community.

Faith Lutheran Church Women FLCW
News & Events October 2024

Sharing & Caring Circle - Tuesday, October 1 at 6:30 p.m.– meeting at church in basement fellowship
Hostess: Tricia Perron
Bible Study: Marcy Wilcke

Sewing Days - Thursday, October 24 and Friday, October 25 any time 10 am to 3 pm
Bring a sack lunch

Thank You Notes have been received for our donations of school supplies to area elementary schools.

Thank You to everyone who helped, brought salads or desserts, and attended the Cluster V Fall Gathering here at Faith! It was a successful event!

October Opportunities for Helping our less fortunate neighbors

Please donate any of the following items and put in the shopping cart in the entry by November 5

Hygiene Items	Food Items	Essential Items
Deodorant	Beef Jerky	Gloves/Hand Warmers
Trial Size soap	Breakfast Bar	Socks
Toothbrush	Mints	First Aid Items
Toothpaste	Peanut Butter Crackers	Small Wash Cloth
Chap Stick/Lip balm	Raisins	Thermal Blanket
Lotion	Snack Cups	Tissues-small size
Feminine Products – pads	Tuna/Chicken/Cracker Kits	Sunscreen-small
Razors		Wet Wipes-small size
		Comb-large teeth

*** $10 gift cards for Subway, McDonalds or Gas Stations

Bakeless Bake Sale Envelopes are available for everyone to donate to the Faith Lutheran Church Women treasury. Money donated goes into the FLCW budget for Christmas giving to help area benevolent agencies and supporting other ministries during the next year. Please return the self-addressed envelopes by mail or put them in the offering box at church by November 17.

Our sympathies to the family of Helen Cotton who passed away.

Some of the ornaments are completed and available to take. Christmas ornaments are double sided and locally made featuring the 75 years logo.

We have sold out of our history books! If you have pre-ordered, they are set aside with your name on them. Still interested in one of them? There is a sign-up sheet in the entryway. More will be ordered if needed.

Faith Lutheran Family,
I was to thank everyone who helped make Faith Lutheran's 75th Anniversary kickoff a success! I must first praise God for the glorious day! We had helpers set the Faith Walk in place Friday. A clean-up crew who pulled weeds, washed windows and tidied up the grounds on Saturday and many hands who helped make Sunday enjoyable and fun for all! Whether you helped in person or in spirit it was so much appreciated.

God Bless,
Beth Petersen

Fellowship, food and fun was the name of the game for our 75th Anniversary celebration! Stop by and walk along the Faith Story path to read about our history. Thanks be to God for a wonderful day!

1. Cory Eggers
2. Brenda Banker, Anson Bowen
5. Dianne Levetzow, Dustin Johnson
8. Jeanne Rowson, Kim Hess, Sherri Ketelsen
9. Laura Aldis
11. Lester Greve, Kayla Corr
14. Marcy Wilcke
15. Jed Petersen, Richard Schroeder, Levi Luckritz, Eric Eggers
16. Carly Hasken
17. Arrianna Dolph
18. Carla Wilson
20. Linda Mussmann
22. Madison Slater
23. Leslie Schroeder
24. Darwin Johnson
26. Lucas Gruhn
28. Scott Jepsen
29. Luann Harris
30. Hannah Gay, Brenda Gronwaldt

Online giving is

available! Go to our website,

flcandoveria.com

and click the donate button!

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

5. Roland & Bette Petersen
10. Brent & Sonja Wilson
16. Rod & Tracie Luckritz
18. James & Danika Perron
20. Sam & Jordan Sexton
26. Richard & Carol Schroeder
28. Scott & Lori Fuller
29. Dale & Kelly Gluesing
30. Sam & Jessica Howard

Milestone Anniversaries

Rod & Tracie Luckritz
25 years

Congratulations!!!

1364 Washington St. P.O. Box 57, Andover, Iowa 52701 † Phone: 563-682-7629
Email: flcandover@gmail.com † Website: flcandoveria.com † Instagram: faith.andover
Facebook: Faith Lutheran Church—Andover † Office hours: Monday-Thursday 9 a.m.-1 p.m.
Sunday School: 8:45 a.m. on Sunday (September-April) † Worship 10 a.m.

SERVING FAITH

October 2024

	10/6	10/13	10/20	10/27	11/3
LECTOR	Marcy Wilcke	Kathy Harmsen	Allegra Luckritz	Kim Hess	Denise Schroeder
COMMUNION ASSISTANT	Megan Peters or Marcy Wilcke	Jeanette Bennett or Paul Weber	Allegra Luckritz or Jack Smith	Kim Hess or Barb Corr	Sheridan or Annie Petersen
ALTAR GUILD	Virginia Eggers (Bread– Lou Schroeder)	Sherril Johnson	Kristi Seamer	Ronda Tietjens	Kelli Parker (Bread– Julie Peters)
FELLOWSHIP COFFEE	Pumpkin Picking	Barb Corr	**Volunteer needed**	75th Anniversary/ Confirmation Cake Reception	**Volunteer needed**
USHERS	Stan & Karin Harmsen	Kathy Rickertsen Darla Hasken	Marcy Wilcke Jeanette Bennett	Adam & Tamarra Friedrichsen Family	Ben & Jamie Luckritz
COUNTING TEAM	Team #2 (10/7)	Team #3 (10/14)	Team #1 (10/21)	Team #2 (10/28)	Team #3 (11/4)

October 2024

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		1 *Sharing/Caring Circle 6:30pm*	*2* *Confirmation 6pm*	*3* *Bible Study 10am* *Fellowship reserved 5pm*	*4*	*5*
6 *SS/STUFF 8:45am* *Outdoor YLD Worship 10am* *Pumpkin Picking to follow*	*7* *Counting Team 2*	*8* *Council meeting 7pm*	*9* *Confirmation 6pm*	*10* *Bible Study 10am*	*11*	*12*
13 *SS/STUFF 8:45am* *Worship 10am (pumpkin picking rain date)*	*14* *Counting Team 3*	*15*	*16* *Confirmation 6pm*	*17* *Bible Study 10am*	*18*	*19*
20 *SS/STUFF 8:45am* *Visitation mtg 8:30am* *Worship 10am*	*21* *Counting Team 1* *Newsletter info due*	*22*	*23* *Confirmation 6pm*	*24* *Bible Study 10am* *Sewing 10am-3pm*	*25* *Sewing 10am-3pm*	*26*
27 *SS/STUFF 8:45am* *Confirmation/ Reformation Worship 10am w/ Pr. Lynn (Gray) Erickson*	*28* *Counting Team 2*	*29*	*30* *Confirmation 6pm*	*31* *Bible Study 10am*		