



Faith Notes

June 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."

It's Time to Start Saying Goodbye

Believe me, I don't like it either, but as an interim, I was never meant to stay long term. We knew when we entered into this partnership, I would eventually leave due to first call or Faith calling a pastor. I have loved my time serving as your interim as "just" Anthony. In this last newsletter, I want to share two things. First, the joys (and challenges) of my time at Faith, and second, my hope for your future.

Joys

As I wrote this article, I had a hard time narrowing down the best parts of my time at Faith. It has been 40+ jam-packed weeks. I frequently joked with Jamie and Deana that "for a small country church, Faith has a lot going on!" But what I loved the most was the involvement and care of kids in this congregation. From our First Communion class, to the weeks spent with the Confirmation kids and Tricia, to the three baptisms, and so much more, the youth of Faith bring life, joy, and energy! It is so special the way this place cares for them. Another thing I loved was being invited to attend and lead the prayer at the Clinton County Cattlemen's annual banquet. It was such a cool experience for a city boy like me, and I still talk about it! Of course, there was nothing quite like being taken up in a two-seater plane by Ken and seeing Andover from the sky, or sitting in a combine with Wayne and seeing firsthand the work farmers do. I loved learning from Jake and Corbin all about ranching and their bottle-calves. I loved working with the Anniversary Committee on planning the events for the 75th and writing part of the history book. I loved our worship services and the laughter we shared (sometimes at my expense!). I'm glad we tried something new with the Advent midweek services and inviting seminary students to preach during Lent. I even loved the boring days, though there weren't many. The list goes on and on, for there is *much* to love about you. Every single day I saw God in your faces and in this place! It has been an absolute joy to have served as your interim.

Challenges

Thankfully the challenges have been few and far between. Although I willingly signed up for it, the drive to and from Dubuque did get old. I appreciated the days I worked from home. I estimate to have driven 20,000 miles just getting to and home from Andover. Which leads me to what I think my biggest shortcoming was during my time as interim. I didn't visit people as often as I ought to have. For that, I am sorry. It is a main part of a pastor's job and I neglected that. However, I am eternally thankful for the strong visitation team at Faith and the multitude of ways you all care for one another. I am confident in your ability to show up for each other.

Future

As a congregation, we celebrate 75 years of ministry this year. Many pastors have come and gone; I am just one name on that list. What matters is how this place has and continues to live out God's
Continued...

...continued

mission in Andover and the world. My hope for you all is that you continue to be a strong, active, and loving church. That children continue to be valued for who they are and included in worship and the life of the congregation. And that you show up for each other. In this continued time of transition, it is important to attend worship and participate in daily ministry. It is easy to let things slide when there's no pastor, but I hope you will be different. Keep showing up. Whether that's to worship, or volunteering, or a kid's concert or sports game. That connection is what makes Faith so wonderful.

We don't know which Sunday will be my last, but as soon as we do that information will be shared. I wish you all the best and my continued prayers for you all.

Peace,
Anthony



Our graduates, Kimi, Aden, Mason, Kylie and Kaitlyn with their quilts.



Join us for Vacation Bible School June 10-14th
from 8:45 a.m.-11:45 a.m.!

Counselors from Camp EWALU return again this year and will lead us in our VBS stories and activities! Families are encouraged to register early to help EWALU counselors prepare for their visit.

All kids between ages 4 yrs. old and 6th grade are invited to join us as we make new friends, grow in faith, and have an awesome adventure!

75th Anniversary Committee Meeting

Our next meeting (and last with me!) will be **Wednesday, June 5th at 5pm.** Note the time change! We will gather for light snacks and then get to business. All are invited! We want congregational involvement so that means you. Yes, you! See you then!! -Anthony



First born babies of the family, Ellis Sexton and Holden Rogers with their parents and quilts.

President:
Chuck Corr

**Vice President/
Financial Secretary:**
Andra Eggers

Secretary:
Tait Wilson

Treasurer:
Jeanette Bennett

Worship:
Mollie Galusha

2024 Church Council

**Faith Formation/
Education:**
Craig Fredrich

**Property &
Management:**
Tim Hess

Stewardship & Outreach:
Barb Randolph
James Wilke

Community Life & Care:
Beth Petersen

Faith Lutheran Church Women FLCW News & Events June 2024

June 4 - Sharing & Caring Circle 6:30pm will meet at the home of hostess:
Bette Petersen 1331 400th Ave Bryant, Iowa
Bible Study: Denise Schroeder

Opportunities to help with church events this summer include:

Vacation Bible School June 10-14 {meals, treats, and helpers will be needed}
Church Garden Committee needs {weeding, watering, and harvesting}
Collect school supplies during July and early August

35 Quilts and Lap robes were dedicated on Sunday, May 5 -Thanks to everyone who helped with this ministry! The completed items were given to 5 high school seniors, 2 newly married, 2 first babies, and 2 Homebound. The rest went to 4 area benevolent agencies

2nd Notice of the Opportunity to Participate with Other Women of Faith
Any Faith Lutheran Church Women can register to attend the 36th Annual SEIA SWO Convention and Gathering on June 14 and 15. This event will never be closer as Zion Lutheran Church in Clinton is the host site. Check with Virginia Eggers if interested as it is not too late to register and attend.

[Closing thought is from Cathy Layton Johnson our Mission Justice Person for Cluster V]
"Always pray to have eyes that see the best in people, a heart that forgives the worst, a mind that forgets the bad, and a soul that never loses faith in God."

We have started using bread for communion on the first Sunday of the month. Please sign up in the entryway or contact the office if you would like to be part of the rotation schedule to provide bread. Bread can be store bought, made at home or Anthony has provided a recipe used for First Communion bread.

The train on the playground recently underwent some work to get it looking nice and new! We are happy to have so many children play on this train!



Before

"Green Thumb Tuesdays"



One of the best places to find God is in the garden! Please join us at 5:30pm or at your convenience starting Tuesday, June 4th at the Faith Lutheran garden to weed and water. Many hands make light work!

Our first dirty Sunday will be June 23rd!

After



Empowering Lay Leadership

A core strength of Faith Lutheran Church is its talented group of lay leaders– those that make the majority of the ministry in a congregation happen. After all, pastors just work one day a week 😊 Faith has always supported lay participation, which is why I have asked Chuck Corr, Tricia Perron, and Megan Peters to go through a 4-session training to be equipped to preach and lead worship. In these sessions I am teaching about worship leadership, sermon writing, preaching, and more. I'm not an easy teacher, and am making them read lots of material, practice the motions of worship, and even write and practice giving a sermon. I feel confident in these three's ability to help fill in when pulpit supply can't be found.

Tricia and Chuck indicated they hope to complete the Synod's SAM training in the fall to learn more and be allowed to preside over the sacraments. In the meantime, Megan, Tricia, and Chuck will faithfully contribute to the worship life of our congregation during this transitional period. I hope you will join me in supporting them! -Anthony

Noisy Bucket Offering

Our collection of Sunday School and Noisy Bucket offerings from January through April went to Little Red Foundation organization. This foundation started in honor of Aniston Rae Thomas (daughter of Mark and Alisse Thomas of Clinton) whom battled all of her one-year life with Hypoplastic Left Heart Syndrome. Her family started this organization to support families who have a child with a congenital heart defect and to raise awareness. This special family has other children in the Northeast Goose Lake school district. Thanks to your generosity, we were able to present them with a donation over \$800!

There are so many other organizations looking for assistance and it is hard to know them all. The Education Committee and the kids (when available) are looking for suggestions to send our noisy bucket donations. Is there an organization near and dear to your heart? Let Megan Peters, Chuck Corr or Jamie Luckritz know if you have an organization in mind.



Welcome to our newest baptized members of Faith Lutheran!

Josie Hoffman, daughter of Kyle & Jessica Hoffman

Andrew Fredrich, son of Craig & Bri Fredrich

Ellis Sexton, son of Sam & Jordan Sexton



Bulletin Cover Art

Are you creative? Do you enjoy drawing, coloring, painting, taking pictures, or anything else? Well, we want YOU to help create our bulletin covers. We figure we have so many creative people in our congregation, why not use their art for worship? Submit your art to the office (originals will be scanned and returned to the owner) Pick up a sheet for suggestions in the entryway or see Jamie in the office for more information.

New Communion Practice

Dear Members of Faith, have you ever noticed how small the side aisles in the sanctuary are?

And that they can be difficult to traverse, especially if you have mobility issues? We have too. That's why we have started a new way to distribute communion.

Instead of having both sides of the church come down together, we will have one side at a time. This way, if you have mobility issues, you may come down for communion and then turn around and return via the main aisle instead of trying to squeeze through the sides. This might be hard to understand in writing, but we'll practice it and have it in no time. If you have any questions, please feel free to reach out. -Anthony



Our worship time has changed to 9 a.m. for the summer! Worship will stay at 9 a.m. until after Labor Day.

Carrot Cake Dip

3rd Place made by Denise Schroeder

- 2 Tbsp. butter
- 1 tsp. ground cinnamon
- 2 cups packed shredded carrots
- 1/4 cup packed dark brown sugar
- Kosher salt
- 1/3 cup golden raisins
- 1/2 cup pineapple juice
- 1 tsp. rum (optional)
- 1 8oz. block cream cheese, softened
- 1/4 cup heavy cream
- 3/4 cup powdered sugar
- 1 tsp. vanilla extract
- 1/3 cup chopped toasted pecans
- 2 Tbsp. toasted sweetened coconut flakes for gar-



Chuck and Barb Corr shared this display at Synod Assembly showcasing our 75 year anniversary!

Bacon-Wrapped Tots

2nd Place made by Todd Randolph

- 16 bacon strips, halved crosswise
- 1/2 cup maple syrup
- 1 tsp. crushed pepper flakes (or more to taste)
- 32 frozen Tator Tots thawed (a bag)

Directions: Preheat oven to 400°. Partially cook bacon, remove to paper towels. Combine syrup and pepper flakes. Dip each bacon piece in syrup mixture then wrap around a tator tot. Secure with toothpicks. Place on a greased rack in a foil lined 15"x10"x1" baking pan. Bake until bacon is crisp, approx. 12-15 minutes. Delicious! (If you like "hot," spicy add more pepper flakes.)



Save the date! The annual Bluegrass service will be held at Calvary Lutheran Church in Sabula this year on July 21st at 10am.

Bluegrass Express will lead the service again this year.

Dear Faith Lutheran Church,
On behalf of St. John's (St. Donatus) we want to thank you for your generous gift of \$750. We greatly appreciate your support. It means the world to us.

Sincerely,
St. John's Council & Forward in Faith Committee

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. Larry Jepsen, Claire Johnson, Dennis Johnson
25. Tim Saul, Quinten Schroeder
26. Michelle Jacobs
27. Finley Wilke, Tracy Frahm



Milestone Anniversaries

Bob & Dianne Levetzow - 50 years

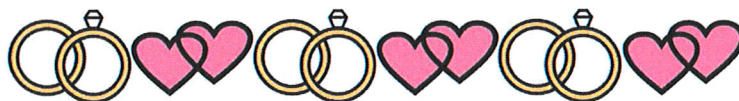
Kevin & Pattie Diercks - 40 years

Jason & Kathy Slater - 20 years

Dick & Judy Petersen - 55 years

Chuck & Barb Corr - 45 years

Congratulations!!!



2. Bob & Dianne Levetzow
5. Gerald & Cathy Caven
8. Wes & Brenda Ehlers
10. Kevin & Patti Diercks
12. Jason & Kathy Slater
14. Willis & Glorianne Greve
17. Todd & Barb Randolph
19. Allen & Nancy Christiansen
28. Dick & Judy Petersen
30. Charles & Barb Corr

Online giving is
available! Go to our website,
flcandoveria.com
and click the donate button!



Pastor John and Ruth Meyer will be celebrating their 65th wedding anniversary on Sunday, June 9th in Oregon. Cards can be sent to 32563 Oakville Rd. SW, Albany, OR 97321. Pastor John was at Faith from 1991-1997.

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Email: flcandover@gmail.com † Website: flcandoveria.com † Instagram: [faith.andover](https://www.instagram.com/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

June 2024

| | <u>6/2</u> | <u>6/9</u> | <u>6/16</u> | <u>6/23</u> | <u>6/30</u> |
|---------------------|---------------------------------|----------------------------------|----------------------------|-------------------------------|------------------------------|
| LECTOR | Kim Hess | Denise Schroeder | Aden Howard | Tricia Perron | Luann Harris |
| COMMUNION ASSISTANT | Kim Hess or Ardith Hamilton | Denise Schroeder or Kelli Parker | Barb Corr or Ken Perron | Erin Petersen or Paul Weber | Brad Peters or Tricia Perron |
| ALTAR GUILD | Sherril Johnson | Kristi Seamer | Ronda Tietjens | Kelli Parker | Deana Jacobs |
| FELLOWSHIP COFFEE | Dee Wilson | Kelli Parker | Beth Petersen | Garden Committee | Need Volunteer |
| USHERS | Hollie Johnson, Sherril Johnson | Joel & Beth Petersen | Jay & Erin Petersen Family | Lou Schroeder, Deb Rickertsen | Dave & Jane Rathje |
| COUNTING TEAM | Team #2 (6/3) | Team #3 (6/10) | Team #1 (6/17) | Team #2 (6/24) | Team #3 (7/1) |

June 2024

| Sun | Mon | Tue | Wed | Thu | Fri | Sat |
|---|--|---|--------------------------|--|---|---|
| | | | | | | 1 |
| 2 Worship 9am | 3 Counting Team 2 | 4 Sharing/Caring Circle 6:30pm Green Thumb Tuesday 5:30pm | 5 | 6 Council meeting | 7 | 8 |
| 9 Worship 9am | 10 Counting Team 3 VBS 8:40-11:50 | 11 VBS 8:40-11:50 Green Thumb Tuesday 5:30pm | 12 VBS 8:40-11:50 | 13 VBS 8:40-11:50 Evening Program 5pm | 14 VBS 8:40-11:50 SWO Convention @ Zion in Clinton | 15 SWO Convention @ Zion in Clinton |
| 16 Worship 9am | 17 Counting Team 1 Newsletter info due | 18 Green Thumb Tuesday 5:30pm | 19 | 20 | 21 | 22 |
| 23 Dirty Sunday Worship 9am | 24 Counting Team 2 | 25 Green Thumb Tuesday 5:30pm | 26 | 27 | 28 | 29 |
| 30 Visitation mtg 8:30am Worship 9am | | | | | | |