

- “The Feast” Wednesday Worship
- Annual Meeting
- Baptism Festival
- Baptism Orientation
- 3 Year Olds Receive Bibles
- Faith On Tap

January 2018



Faith Forecaster

Faith Lutheran Church
310 Medayto Drive
Spicer, MN 56288

*This is the day that the Lord has made;
let us rejoice and be glad in it.
(Psalm 118:24)*



PHONE: 320.796.2522
WEB SITE: www.faithspicer.org
E-MAIL: office@faithspicer.org

Church Council

President	Tim Renner
Vice President	Nate Grotelueschen
Secretary	Kelly McComb Jeff Johnson Carla Lagerstedt Lila Burmeister Brian Paulson Ron Peterson Brian Jensen

Staff

Lead Pastor	Todd Nelsen
Associate Pastor	Seyward Ask
Interim Education Director	Hannah Nelsen
Worship & Music Director	Dave Eliason
Office Administrator	Joy White
Property Manager	
Custodian	Paul Haney
Preschool Staff~ Director/Teacher	Patsy Cordes
Preschool Aide	Katina Dahl

A few weeks ago as we were preparing for Christmas, Justin wanted to bake some Christmas goodies with Brooklyn. He was following his family’s coconut ball recipe, letting Brooklyn help dump out 3 cups of powdered sugar and 2 sticks of butter into the stand mixer. As Justin went to plug in the mixer, he didn’t realize the lever was on the highest setting.

Powdered. Sugar. Everywhere.

It was all over the counter, all over the floor, all over Brooklyn. After the initial shock, it didn’t take long for Brooklyn to discover how delicious powdered sugar tastes, and she proceeded to run her fingers through the powder-covered counter and pop them into her mouth.

What could have been perceived as nothing but a huge, inconvenient mess, instead turned into an opportunity to view the world through the eyes of a child, and a fun memory to recall each year when we make coconut balls.

Each and every day is a gift from God. We still had to go through the mundane task of sweeping up powdered sugar from the floor and wiping down the counters. But even in those every day tasks, God is a constant presence, always part of our lives.

This is the day that the Lord has made; let us rejoice and be glad in it!

Blessings~
Pastor Seyward Ask

Sharing at God's Table - Fund Appeal

Faith Lutheran is a generous gathering of God's people! Our congregation is made up of faithful disciples who have a deep love for Jesus. In our life together we have discovered that God is good and gracious to us and we respond to God's blessings with gratitude and generosity.

Mission and ministry at Faith happens because the members of our congregation understand that we are blessed to be a blessing. Many of us recognize God's blessings and we respond with grateful hearts as we share our blessings with and through the ministry of our congregation. And once we begin to give, we discover a joy that we want others to experience on their Faith journey.

As we begin a new year, the members of Faith Lutheran Church will be invited to experience this joy as part of our **Sharing at God's Table Fund Appeal**. Our goal for this appeal is to encourage growth in giving among all of our members. We have set a financial goal of a \$90,000 increase in our financial stewardship, and we believe meeting this goal will allow us to accomplish the following:

Sustaining Ministry Excellence - We value the ministry here at Faith and by meeting this goal we will allocate an additional \$20,000 to support and grow our current ministries.

Valuing our Time - Faith's mission and ministry engages the gifts of many members of our congregation. \$25,000 of our increased goal will be used to hire a Congregational Life Coordinator to enhance our volunteer experience.

Strengthening our Faith Family - Faith is called to make disciples across the generations. The Feast is one ministry which helps us answer this call. We will dedicate \$10,000 of our goal to fund this emerging ministry.

Caring for our Home - Our facilities are a warm and welcoming place for our members and the community. By increasing our giving Faith will be able to dedicate \$25,000 to address several deferred maintenance items.

Investing in our Future Membership - Seeking to make Faith the church of choice in our community, we look to make the most of our technological assets and the various ways in which people communicate today. \$10,000 of our goal will be applied to reaching out to our community.

This goal is achievable. This month, you will be invited to consider an increase in your weekly giving. If everyone who supported our ministry this past year grew their weekly giving by \$5.00 (that's less than the cost of a fast food meal) a week, we would surpass our goal by \$21,500. Imagine that, for the price of one trip through the drive-thru, each week, we could surpass our goal. Just think of what an increase in the cost of one pizza a week could do for our financial growth as a congregation.

We invite your prayers for Faith as together we Share at God's Table.
The Faith Lutheran Mission Resource Team



ANNUAL MEETING

Our annual meeting is scheduled for the LAST SUNDAY in JANUARY - that's January 28, 2018. We will meet in the sanctuary between services from 9:40am to 10:25am. We need a quorum to hold the meeting. See you there!

**Quorum - the minimum number of members of an assembly or society that must be present at any of its meetings to make the proceedings of that meeting valid.*

The Feast

Wednesdays at Faith

Meal

5:15pm-5:50pm

Worship

6:00pm-6:30pm

Education/Service Project

6:35pm-7:35pm

Faith After Hours

7:45pm
Choir Rehearsal

Education/Service Project

January 3

- ⇒ Sprouts w/Hannah Nelsen (pre K - 6th Gr)
- ⇒ Confirmation Class
- ⇒ Making Sense of Scripture by David Lose led by Joy White

January 10

- ⇒ Sprouts w/Hannah Nelsen (pre K - 6th Gr)
- ⇒ Confirmation Class
- ⇒ Making Sense of Scripture by David Lose led by Joy White

January 17

- ⇒ Sprouts w/Hannah Nelsen (pre K - 6th Gr)
- ⇒ Confirmation Class
- ⇒ Making Sense of Scripture by David Lose led by Joy White

January 24

- ⇒ Sprouts w/Hannah Nelsen (pre K - 6th Gr)
- ⇒ Confirmation Class
- ⇒ Making Sense of Scripture by David Lose led by Joy White

January 31

- ⇒ No Sprouts
- ⇒ Congregational Service Project

January Menu

January 3 - Spaghetti, salad & garlic toast
January 10 - Scalloped potatoes w/ham, vegetable
January 17 - Meatballs, mashed potatoes, gravy, corn
January 24 - Hot turkey on a bun w/wild rice soup
January 31 - Pork commercial sandwich

January Education

Making Sense of Scripture

David Lose invites the reader to engage in a conversation, one that he imagines discussing around his kitchen table, about seven major questions (we will be addressing 4) of the Bible. *Making Sense of Scripture* is a dialogue that encourages readers to bring their questions or doubts to the table when reading Scripture. During this conversation, there are different opportunities for the reader to interact with the Bible, ultimately leaving room for personal transformation of the heart and mind.

You can purchase the study guide from Augsburg fortress or smile.amazon.com. It is a good idea to read the chapter before. If you are unable to purchase the book please call Joy in the office at 796.2522.

January Service Project Opportunity

On Wednesday, January 31, our congregation has the opportunity to pack meals for The Link's Wildcat Backpack Program. This provides nutritious meals for kids over the weekend who might not otherwise have those foods available. Please join us at 6:35pm to learn more about this wonderful ministry followed by packing the bags. Together, we are making a difference in our community!



Feast meal volunteers NEEDED

We are in need of volunteers to help serve and clean up on Wednesday evenings. It's easy work and it doesn't take too long. It's a great way to involve your whole family. A sign up list is always at the Welcome Center. Please consider helping to serve or clean up one meal in 2018. Thank you!

Let's Meet!

Mission Resource Team

Monday, January 8
5:30pm

Council

Thursday, January 11
6:00pm

Weekly Faith Bible Study

Thursdays @ 9:30am

Weekly Men's Bible Study

Saturdays @ 9:00am

Our Church Family

The following members have been listed in our Prayer Concerns during the month of December:

Dorothy Hanson
Leland Lundberg
Ken Kruger
Junnette Hovland
Doug Bultman
Kathy Quam
Vernon Thorstad
Jo Julius
Kent Kircher
Gloris Schultz
Diane Nelsen

Baptisms

Emersyn Alma Barber
December 3

Deaths

Roy Eliason
December 22

Regular Office Hours

Monday - Friday
8am-4pm
Closed Monday, January 1

Don't forget!

The first Sunday of each month our Parish Nurse is here to do free blood pressure checks. Head to office 114 on the east side of the gathering area to have yours checked.



Simply Giving



The Simply Giving program is a modern day stewardship program. It's a convenient, safe and simple way for you to make an "automated offering" to church through electronic funds transfer directly from your checking or savings account. You can choose weekly, bi-weekly or monthly and you can choose which day you would like as well. Donations can be for any amount you choose. Forms are available at the Welcome Center and on our website. Call Pastor Todd at church with any questions.

A Great Way To GIVE!



Check out our Quick Response (QR) code created specifically for Faith Lutheran Church.

What is this QR code and why use it?

When you scan this barcode-like QR code image with a smartphone's QR decoder, it will instantly connect you to the mobile version of the Faith online giving page. Try it yourself! To individuals who are familiar with QR codes, it will provide a quick and easy way to access our web page without having to type out a long web address and locate our link.

Faith's Digital Kiosk



Faith has a Digital Kiosk at the Welcome Center. From this very user friendly Ipad you can enter the Faith Lutheran web site, sign up for Simply Giving, or use Sign Up Genius to volunteer to be part of one of the many ministries at Faith. If you are unsure how to use it, just ask a staff member or someone working at the Welcome Center.

Winter Weather Alerts



Faith Lutheran Church follows the NL-S school district closing for our activities. This includes preschool, Confirmation and the church office. Check for cancellations on Q102.5 FM radio's Operation Snow Desk, look on www.yourq102.com or check our Facebook page.

Mission Plan for 2017

\$631,742.00



Year to date, as of November 30:

Offering Received	= \$535,066.28
Actual Expenses	= \$580,547.78
Excess Expenses	= -\$45,481.50

Thank You

Thank You Go To Gary!

We would like to say thank you to our Property Manager Gary Lagerstedt for his ten years of faithful service to Faith Lutheran Church. Gary has been a valued member of our staff and will be greatly missed. Blessings Gary upon your retirement! Faith Staff and Council

Thank you once again for opening your doors and allowing us to sing in your beautiful church. What an awesome place to sing. We also want to thank you for your wonderful hospitality, the refreshments after the concert are greatly appreciated! Truly a ministry to us, and your community. Merry Christmas! Prairie Arts Choral

Many thanks for the lovely Thanksgiving box delivered to me this Thanksgiving.
Dorothy Swart

Thank you from the bottom of my heart for the yummy Thanksgiving goodie box! You have no idea how much I appreciated you thinking of me. God bless you all!
Rosemary Allgood

Thank you so much for the opportunity to sing in your sanctuary. The West Central Singers love to sing at different venues and we appreciate your hospitality. It was also a very fun place to sing. Great sound!
West Central Singers

Thank you so much for the box of goodies I got last month from the friends of Faith Lutheran. It was very good of you all.
Esther Vorlicek

Thank you for your contribution of \$150 in support of the Senior Nutrition Program in your area.
Monica - Senior Program Director

I want to express my gratitude for your gift to Samaritan's Purse. We truly appreciate your generous investment in what God is doing through this ministry. May God bless you.
Franklin Graham

Thank you to Brian Gieseke for taking quilts and layettes to the Lutheran World Relief in St Paul.

A Great Big Thank You!!

Pastor Todd and Pastor Seyward would like to express our deepest gratitude for everyone who has been so generous to remember us both this Christmas season. Your many gifts and goodies have been greatly appreciated, and it's a wonderful reminder of how kind and thoughtful this congregation is. Many, many thanks to you!

Property Update

By Gary Lagerstedt, Property Manager

Great news! Thanks to generous donations by Faith members we now have enough money to repair our church bell operating system. As soon as the replacement parts arrive we will have them installed.

The new system will give us the capability to have the bell ring automatically on a pre-set calendar. We are considering ringing the bell at the start of each service as a call to worship. We will also have the capability to ring the toll bell at funerals. Thanks again.

Our next task is to replace the existing parking lot lights with LED bulbs. This will involve replacing the entire head and bulb on each pole. The cost of replacing each head/bulb is \$800, but after a \$200 Xcel rebate the cost is \$600 each. The advantages of LED's is a brighter light, significant energy savings and the longevity of an LED bulb is ten times that of a mercury vapor bulb, which is what our lights have now.

Another long-term project facing our congregation is the resurfacing of the parking lot asphalt. The church council has been exploring alternatives and will be making some decisions on how to proceed. Stay tuned!

I will be leaving my position as property manager as of January 1. This is a position I've held for ten years. I've had a great time and I've enjoyed all the challenges of supervising the maintenance of such a large church building and over ten acres of church property. During my time here, and with the help of so many Faith members, we've completed the phase two building project that included the new dining/community room, kitchen, youth room and preschool wing. We've also completed the preschool playground, the community garden and the columbarium/prayer garden. It's been a trip!



Mark Your Calendar For Faith Family Camp

Faith Lutheran will once again participate in Family Camp at Camp House in Brimson, Minnesota. Faith's dates for family camp are August 9th to the 12th. If you are interested in learning more about Family Camp please speak to Pastor Todd.

Ongoing Opportunities

The Amazing Collection Bible Study

Mondays
8:15am

The Amazing Collection Bible Study, continues at Faith Lutheran. We meet Monday mornings in the Faith Fireside Room, gathering at 8:15am to grab our coffee and visit a bit, with the study beginning at 8:30am. This is a community Bible study. Join us as often as you can. If you have questions, please call Diane Minke (796.2612) or Janae Rambow (320.905.1067).

Hobby Night

Friday, January 12

Bring your supplies, a friend, some snacks/beverage and plan to spend some time visiting and crafting! Call Sonya Erickson for more information at 444.1134. Everyone is welcome. See you there!

Forecaster Submissions Due

Monday, January 15

Tuesday's Table - Volunteers Needed

Tuesday, January 16
6:00pm - 6:30pm

Join us for this free community meal right here at Faith! Would you like to volunteer to help? Please sign up on our monthly Opportunity to Serve cards that are in our Sunday bulletins the 2nd Sunday of each month.

Women's Bible Study Circles

Wednesday, January 17
9:30am - Lydia/Mary Circle - place TBD
1:30pm - Hannah/Ruth - Ruth Idstrom's
Thursday, January 18
1:30pm - Rachel - Faith's Fireside Room

All women of Faith Lutheran Church are invited to join one of the Bible Study Circles. For more info contact Nona Oie at 796-5554.

Faith On Tap

Thursday, January 18
6:30pm

Join us at Faith on Tap on Thursday evening, January 18 at Goat Ridge Brewery in New London. This is a 21 year old and over Bible study. If you are looking for something a little different than your typical Bible study, please come!



Team Work - At it's best!

Personnel Policy Team

The Executive Committee has decided that a team should be formed to review and update the existing policies and amend or create a new handbook governing personnel policies. Jeff Johnson will serve as the chairperson. We are seeking volunteers to serve on this team and help formulate these policies. Volunteers should have access to a computer and be familiar with or willing to learn how to use Microsoft Word and/or Google Docs. If you are interested in being part of this very important 5 or 6 person ministry or desire more information, please contact Jeff Johnson at 320-905-1539. It is anticipated that the Team will kick off their important work soon after Christmas.

Video Team Training

Wednesday, February 21
5:30pm & 6:35pm

Have you ever missed a sermon but wish you could have heard it? Well now you can! If you would like to be a part of the Video Team come to the training. You don't need to commit just come and check it out and see if it's something you would be interested in doing. We've got the equipment, now we just need the willing and able bodies of volunteers to make it happen.

You can choose from two different times to come. If you have questions please call the church office.

Tuesday's Table Team

Our team is in need of a few more helpers. We serve a free community meal every 3rd Tuesday of the month here at Faith. We have a stable crew of cooks but we could use a few more volunteers to help serve and clean up. You can do it once or twice or make it a monthly tradition for yourself and even your family. **There will be a special offering on January 7 for our Tuesday's Table mission.**

Family Promise Team

Our Family Promise Committee at Faith has had five (5) very faithful volunteers steering the way. We are now down to four (4) volunteers, along with Pastor Seyward. **We need 1 or 2 more volunteers to be on this committee.** As with any volunteer committee, a rotation of members is healthy. Please give this your prayerful consideration. Contact Pastor Seyward at 796-2522 if you are interested.

baptism



Baptism Festival Brunch

On Sunday, January 7th, all families who had baptisms that took place at Faith Lutheran in 2017 are invited to a celebration brunch at 9:45am. This is in honor and celebration of the sacrament of baptism. The brunch will be hosted by families who had baptisms that took place at Faith Lutheran during 2016. A more detailed letter will be sent out to participating families.

Baptism Orientation
Wednesday, January 10 @ 6:35pm
Or
Sunday, January 14 @ 9:45am

If you are planning a baptism this winter or spring, please register **ASAP** for this important opportunity to learn more about the sacrament of baptism, meet other parents, and get to know your congregational sponsors. Contact the church office to sign up, child care is available.

GIVE BLOOD!

Tuesday, January 23
1:00pm-7:00pm

One person's blood can help up to 6 people! Faith Lutheran will be hosting a Red Cross Blood Drive in January!

If you are willing to bring food or serve in the kitchen please contact Esther Lunz at 354-7100. Please consider volunteering for an hour or two in the canteen--parent & child, Jr. High or Sr. High youth, friends, spouses. It is so easy and truly makes a difference.

Call Kathy Munsell at 796-0675 to make your appointment.



Make Faith the church of YOUR choice!

Interested in becoming a member at Faith? Consider attending our Faith 101 class!

Please attend our Faith 101 classes! This three-week course is for people wanting to learn more about our church and the ministries and programs we have to offer.

Class #1 will be offered Sunday, February 18 (9:45-10:30am) and Wednesday, February 21 (6:35-7:30pm) - choose one to attend

Class #2 will be offered Sunday, February 25 (9:45-10:30am) and Wednesday, February 28 (6:35-7:30pm) - choose one to attend

Class #3 will be offered Sunday, March 4 (9:45-10:30am)

*New members will be officially welcomed on Sun., March 4 during our 10:35am worship. Please contact Pastor Seyward to sign up.

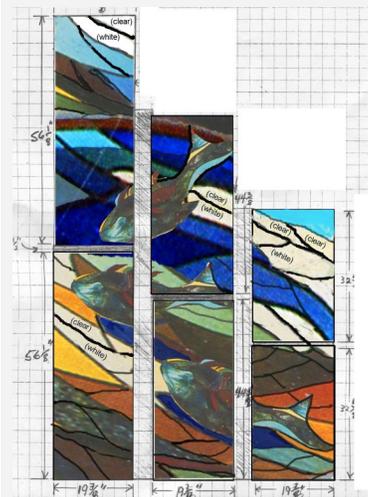
SHROVE (FAT) TUESDAY PANCAKE DINNER

Youth Fundraiser

The Faith Lutheran Youth traveling to the National Youth Gathering are hosting a Shrove (Fat) Tuesday Pancake Dinner from 5:00pm- 7:00pm on Tuesday, February 13.

Pancakes, Sausage, Juice and Coffee will be served.

Cost for the meal is \$10.00 for Adults, \$7.00 for kids 4-11, Kids 3 and under eat free.



'Glory to God'
**Stained Glass
 Windows Project**

Information & Commitment Meeting
Sunday, January 7, 2018
Between services

All interested parties welcome to attend: glass harvesters, stained glass artists, helpers in all areas of time, funding, and space. Planning done thus far includes a basic design (shown) as a starting point, and wooden frameworks for the windows involved (high south windows at rear of sanctuary). The glass to be used is taken from the churches in our building history, and in this same vein, it is desired to make this a multi-generational project. Details of this project need to be decided and a work plan made. Hope to see you there!

Worship Times
 Wednesdays 6:00pm-6:35pm
 Sundays 8:30am & 10:35am

Faith After Hours
Choir Rehearsal
Wednesdays in January
7:45pm

Everyone is welcome! Come and lend your voice to the choir and praise God with music!

Special Music
January 14
Chancel Choir sings at both services

January 28
Bluegrass Band will lead worship



January Scriptures
 Jan. 7 ~ Genesis 1:1-5, Acts 19:1-7, Mark 1:4-11
 Jan. 14 ~ 1 Samuel 3:1-20, 1 Corinthians 6:12-20, John 1:43-51
 Jan. 21 ~ Jonah 3:1-5, 10, 1 Corinthians 7:29-31, Mark 1:14-20
 Jan. 28 ~ Deuteronomy 18:15-20, 1 Corinthians 8:1-13, Mark 1:21-28

Ash Wednesday

February 14
 6:00pm

Lent Worship Services

Wednesdays
 February 21 - March 21
 6:00pm

Mauddy Thursday

March 29
 7:00pm

Good Friday

March 30
 7:00pm

We will continue with our Wednesday meals from 5:15pm-5:50pm before Lenten worship. (No meal March 28)

LIVING

LENT

DAILY

December & January Activities

December Themes: The five Senses of Christmas, the Magic of Christmas, Jesus the best gift of all.

January Themes: The New Year 2018, Winter Fun, Animals of the Snow.

Art: we made 18 individual triangular trees that we then put together to make a huge Praise and Play Family tree! We made presents and cards for parents, cards for the staff which we delivered while we caroled down the church halls. We made angel tree ornaments and gingerbread men. In January we will make matching mittens, polar bears, outdoor fun in the winter and paint 2018 with q-tips.

Bible Stories: In December, we focused on the Christmas Story, each week taking a different part of it. In January we will start in on Jesus' life. Table time has included puzzles, Legos, ABC's in order, filling crazy straws with beads in a pattern, playdough with Christmas cookie cutters and cutting. In January it will be patterns and sequencing games and activities.

Our dramatic play featured in December was a gingerbread bakery and Santa's toy shop where we were elves making and painting toys, wrapping toys and Santa and his reindeer delivering the toys. January will have an ice fishing frozen lake and a skating rink as well as a hot chocolate shop. We will also pretend to hibernate like some Minnesota animals do.

We have been working on hot wheel cars and garages, dinosaurs, and the most complete Nativity scene ever.

We put up our Christmas tree and all got to add 6 ornaments to the tree!

We are learning one letter and one number each week now and have had to bring a show n tell item that starts with the letter of the week. We love our musical instruments and have learned several songs, using our jingle bells.

News

Praise and Play is working on becoming a star rated child care program in Minnesota through Child Care Aware. Centers and Preschools can receive anywhere from 1-4-star rating and will bring in scholarship dollars depending upon our rating. It is a yearlong process with the first 6 months being observed and coached by a child care aware regional consultant. She must spend 30 hours with us and will complete that by Dec. 31.

From January through March, we will write our application and in April or May be observed by the state. We will receive our award in July. It is much work but should benefit Praise and Play upon completion.

Contact Patsy Cordes for more information. (320)796-2522 or pandp@faithspicer.org.



**Faith families!
Please spread the
word about the only
Christian preschool in the
NLS school district,
right here at Faith~
Praise and Play!**



Another awesome Children's Christmas Worship service in the books!
Thank you to all of the parents, Sunday School teachers, and kids for helping with the Christmas Program!

Sunday School
Sundays
9:30am-10:30am

We are sliding into the New Year as we enter into 2018. Sunday School will start up again January 7!
 All children are welcome. If you haven't been to Sunday school yet this year, that's OK! Please come! Contact Hannah Nelsen at education@faithspicer.org for more information.

Wednesdays
6:35pm-7:35pm

FAITH SPROUTS

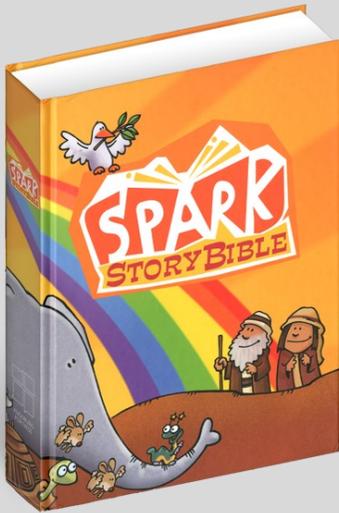


Faith Sprouts is a Wednesday night ministry for preschool through 6th grade led by Hannah Nelsen. Children are invited to join Hannah in the Conference Room as their parents are in adult education classes. The children will study the Bible lesson taught the upcoming Sunday in a fun, large group setting. The children will play games, sing songs, read scripture, craft, and pray. Faith Sprouts and Sunday School teach the same lesson but the activities, setting, and study are unique enough where children benefit from both.

Wednesdays in January are: January 3, 10, 17, 24
No Sprouts January 31 do to congregational service project.

Children's Ministry Team Meeting
Tuesday, January 16
6:30pm at Faith

The Children's Ministry Team, CMT, originally started as a group of Sunday school volunteers who would meet to briefly go over the next Sunday school lesson. While we still do this it has evolved into so much more! We have started discussing much further into the lesson. It is a very open discussion. We are empowering people to become leaders. Please join us if you have ever had an interest in being part of our Sunday school program, or just come and check it out. It has been great getting to know each other so much better!



CATERPILLARS AND FAMILIES

On Sunday, January 21, at 9:30am, all Caterpillar parents are asked to attend Sunday school with their child. Also on Sunday, January 21, at the 10:35am service all Caterpillar students will receive a Spark Storybook Bible. Please put this date on your calendar and plan to attend! The Bibles will have labels with your child's name on it, so please email Hannah at education@faithspicer.org with the correct spelling of your child's full name. **Thank you so much to all who make this possible by their gifts!**

Sunday, January 21 - 9:30am Caterpillar parents attend Sunday school w/your child
Sunday, January 21 - 10:35am Caterpillars receive their Storybook Bibles

Confirmation Mentor Interest Meeting Wednesday, January 24 @ 6:35pm

Anyone who has ever had an interest in being a confirmation mentor please come to hear what it's all about.

National Youth Gathering Information & Fundraising Meeting Sunday, January 7 12:00pm

There will be a meeting Sunday, January 7, 2018 at 12:00pm for those who plan on attending the National Youth Gathering to talk about Fundraising opportunities and more!

National Youth Gathering June 27- July 1, 2018 Houston, TX

Youth who have finished 8th grade through those who just finished 12th grade by the time of the Gathering, may go on this remarkable experience. You can still register, you just won't receive the early bird savings. Come to the meeting to find out more.



Who Wants to SKI?!

Sunday, February 18 Depart 10am – Return at 5pm

Skiing at Andes Tower Hills!
 Contact Hannah Nelsen if interested!
 (education@faithspicer.org)
 Cost for Ski Lift and Rentals: \$55
 Cost for just Ski Lift: \$40



Permission slips required and due by Feb. 4
Will need extra money for food and drinks.



New 2 You
THRIFT STORE

We are blessed to have your support and are so appreciative that you choose our store to share your extra. Whether you donated one item or many, on one occasion or several, we wanted to let you know how thankful we are for your participation. We work hard every day to take the items you donate and find good homes for them.

As the year comes to a close, we ask that you please be intentional about donating your gently used items. What better way to make some space at home than to donate those items you no longer use. You have the benefit of a tax deduction, earning credit for your organization through Corners of Your Field, and feeling good about making a difference in our community.

We are open for donations from 10AM to 5PM Monday thru Saturday, Thursday until 8PM.

For donations of large household items, such as furniture and appliances, we offer free pick up for donors within close proximity to our store. Give us a call at 320-231-1850 if you have any questions.

Faith Lutheran Church gives all gift cards we receive to Safe Avenue Homes. Please donate to New 2 You, it's so easy!



We collect Teal's grocery & **GAS** receipts. We will receive 1% of all receipts we turn in. No matter what size of purchase you have, please bring in your receipts. All monies we receive go towards our Tuesday's Table meal. Thank you for continuing to help fund our community dinner.

Your receipts have brought in over \$2,300 in 2017! Thank you!



Family Promise hosted three (3) wonderful families the last week of November. A big thank you to everyone who volunteered their time to make this week a success. You may also like to know that a former family is now living in our area, and the children are attending NLS.

We have become keenly aware that homelessness can happen quickly to a family with long-term medical issues, due to the inability to work. These families have been supported through Family Promise - thanks to you, and God.

We will begin using Sign Up Genius for the Family Promise Volunteer schedule for the weeks we host. **We need a volunteer to be in charge of monitoring Sign Up Genius and making sure the volunteer slots are being filled.** (Ruth and Lynn are no longer able to do this.)

Our Family Promise Committee at Faith has had five (5) very faithful volunteers steering the way. We are now down to four (4) volunteers, along with Pastor Seyward. **We need 1 or 2 more volunteers to be on this committee.** As with any volunteer committee, a rotation of members is healthy. Please give this your prayerful consideration. Contact Pastor Seyward at 796-2522 if you are interested.

Missionary For A Day



We support ELCA Missionary Rev. Dr. Elisabeth Johnson in Cameroon primarily through our Missionary for a Day program. **This past year we were able to raise \$801.** If you would like to participate in this program in 2018 by donating in honor or remembrance of a loved one just label your checks MFAD in the memo line. Thank you for your continued support of Rev. Dr. Elisabeth Johnson.

Greetings from your sponsored ELCA missionary in Cameroon! It is time for another update...

Our academic year at the Lutheran Institute of Theology in Meiganga began the first week in October, and the first semester is already nearing the end. Now in my fifth year of teaching here, I continue to enjoy my work very much. In addition to my work teaching Greek and New Testament classes, I also serve as "Secrétaire académique," which means essentially being assistant to the Dean. In terms of family news, we are still waiting for my husband Eric's work transfer from Yaoundé to Ngaoundéré so that we can be closer together. Meanwhile, since early November, our sons David and Etienne have settled in with me in Meiganga. So now I am adjusting to being the mother of two 2-year-olds, who are at turns sweet and adorable, or throwing tantrums, or fighting with each other, and quite often getting into things they should not be getting into. It is truly exhausting, but I love them immensely and am very grateful for how quickly they seem to have accepted me as their mother. Thank you so much for your continued prayers for my work and my family. I pray that your Advent and Christmas seasons are blessed with the joy and peace of Christ, who comes to us in profound simplicity, humility, and love.

+ Grace and peace +

Elisabeth

Christmas Joy and Thanksgiving Baskets!

This holiday season, thanks to many local donors and churches, The Link provided 48 holiday food baskets to families in need. We also coordinated Christmas Joy with Crossroads Community Church and community members to sponsor 12 families for Christmas! Faith Lutheran Church provided The Link with gift cards from their Mitten Tree to share with local families that expressed a financial need during the holidays. It is always a blessing to share the spirit of Christmas with our neighbors who needed it the most!



Wildcat Backpack Program Update:

Each Friday, students participating in the program are receiving two entrees, two breakfast items, two juice boxes and two snacks for the weekend. The goal of the program is to ensure that all students arrive at school on Monday, fed and ready to learn. Because of your generous support, the Wildcat Backpack Program is already serving 65 students each week and participation continues to grow! So far almost \$30,000 has been raised to support kids in our community. Thank you!



Impact:

The Link received a call from a family whose fridge and freezer quit working. The family had just filled it up with food and at the time with the warm, winter weather, storing it outside was not an option. The Link was able to partner with Kandiyohi Power Cooperative's Conservation Improvement Program which provided the family with a new, energy efficient fridge. The Cooperative's CIP program also provided three of the Tuesday's Table churches with energy efficient deep freezers along with upgrading The Link's Food Pantry freezer!

"Creating a community where neighbors share the love of God through service to each other."

Tuesday's Table

January Schedule

Serving from 6:00-6:30pm

Jan. 2: Our Lady of the Lakes Catholic Church

Jan. 9: Evangelical Covenant Church

Jan. 16: Faith Lutheran Church

Jan. 23: Peace Lutheran Church

Jan. 30: Faith Lutheran Church by NLS Lions

Household Exchange

& Food Pantry Hours

Tuesday: 9am-3pm

Thursday: 9am-3pm

3rd Wednesday: 4pm - 7pm

Revive + Redeem

Boutique | Thrift Hours

1st and 3rd weekend

Friday: 10am - 4pm

Saturday: 9am - 1pm

Stock the Pantry

Key food items: Milk, eggs, bread, cereal, canned fruits & vegetables, noodles and sauce, peanut butter, jelly and tuna. Please contact Chasity at 354.5555 to make a donation of food.

Backpack Needs:

- Single serve, pop top, pull tab, easy open single servings of pasta and soup
- Fruit cups
- Veggie cups
- Breakfast/cereal bars
- Granola bars
- 100% juice boxes
- Cheese and crackers
- Single serve cereals
- Single serve oatmeal

The Link

P.O. Box 823

New London, MN 56273

Telephone: 320.354.5555 or 320.354.5465

Chasity Ommott

outreach@youarethelink.org

Rhonda Otteson

director@youarethelink.org

Shawna Roemeling

coordinator@youarethelink.org

Women of the ELCA

January 2018 Bible Study

Multiple meanings -other interpretations from Bible Stories
Devotional: Mark 7:1-8

Quilting

January 8 & 9 - 9:00am-3:00pm

January 29 & 30 - 9:00am-3:00pm

Lydia/Mary Bible Study

January 17 - 9:30am

Hannah/Ruth Bible Study

January 17 - 1:30pm @ Ruth Idstrom's

Rachel Bible Study

January 18 - 1:30pm Fireside Room @ Faith

Everyone is invited to join us in our meetings, Bible studies and helping with our quilting. People are needed for ironing fabric and cutting squares.

Contact Nona Oie 796-5554 for more information.

- 1) Matt Bisek, Jenna Chapin, Deric DeSchepper, Judy Lundeen, Rodney Paulson
- 2) Natalie Boone, Jaden Gieser, Dean Gylten, Brody Lien
- 3) Hayden Downey, Colton Kriese, Rick Negen
- 4) Tom Beyer, Rachel Mitchell, Brennan Reich
- 5) Ian Carlson, Mackenzie Erickson, Maren Flom Staab, Ava Hauer, Elijah Haugen, Kari Kuehneman, Anita Lewison, Ed Rauk, Landon Salem, Courtney Schiesser, Grace Toutges, Nathan Verch
- 6) Derek Doty, Ashley Holien, Ramona Keller, Jesse Knudsen, Dave Pearson, Lenore Schaffnit
- 7) Keith Nelson, Norma Wacholz
- 8) Dylen Hunter, Molly Mortenson, Corey Strom, Jamie Swenson
- 9) Ruth Fairchild, Lily Verch
- 10) Nicholas Erickson, Lloyd Hoekstra, Aidan Paulson
- 11) Jonathan Wessels
- 12) Ashley Baker, Richard Ford, Emmanuel Lopez, Marlo Lopez, Harper Olness, Kinley Olson, Emma Solsrud
- 13) Mary Larsen, Myles Macik
- 14) Denise Gjerde, Tom Groth, Stephen Grothem, Ellie Hanson, Gary Swanson
- 15) Wyatt Debner, Becky Gibbs, Lola Mitchell, Lilly Prentice, Roger Radel, Sarah Vauk
- 16) Rowan Haven, Dick Ladwig, Chris Rueckert, Jared Swenson
- 17) Cheryl DeZeeuw, Nathan Klaers, Kellie Prentice, Mark Thompson, Jeff Vetsch
- 18) Connor Dierkhising, Caleb Louwagie, Derrick Nieland, Robert Sogge
- 19) David Eliason, Brooke Lien, Edward Roley, Sharon Willen
- 20) Dee Dee Hanson, Marlys Jacobson
- 21) Debbie Hoekstra, Kelly McComb, Jacob Reich, Susan Rime, Jody Wharton
- 22) Dylan Hardebeck, Laraya Kosel, Michelle Revermann, Erik Woodhall
- 23) Gavin Degner, Christopher Isdal, Elmer Mead, Nicole Pederson
- 24) Brianna Fredrick
- 25) Elin Kriese, Alicia Larsen, Gayle Martens
- 26) Loretta Fenske, Gail Johnson, Dean Madsen, Lauren Marquardt, Jack Noeldner, Olivia Paffrath, Amanda Steffensen, Stanley Thompson
- 27) Brooklyn Dolan, Chad Erickson, Stephany Geske, Sara Goebel, Steve Hunt, Kip Knutson, Linda Lucas, Evan Michelson, Quentin Radel, Linda Stai
- 28) Johanna Asche, Phil Quam
- 29) Kathleen Anderson, Kory Klebe, Karen Peterson, Ella Quale, Logan Schaaf
- 30) Andrea Bloedel, Jeni Gaffkjin, Kodi Goracke, Janet Johnson, Sam Nelson, Troy Schiesser, Merryyn Skarphol
- 31) Steve Brisendine, Watson Hood, Cal Knudsen, Cynthia Mathisen



Thank you to the women who supplied and packed for the Baby Care Kit (Layette) Ministry back in December. It was great fun! They packed 160 kits in total to be sent off to Lutheran World Relief.



SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
	1 Office is Closed	2 7:30am-5pm Preschool 6pm-6:30pm Tuesday's Table @ Our Lady of Lakes	3 7:30am-5pm Preschool 5:15pm-5:50pm Meal 6pm-6:30pm Worship 6:35pm-7:35pm Educa- tion Hour 7:45pm Faith After Hours (Choir)	4 7:30am-5pm Pre- school 9:30am Bible Study 10:40am Preschool Chapel 4pm-6:30pm Just For Kix	5	6 9am Bible Study
7 8:30am Worship 9:30am Coffee Hour/ Sunday School/Blood Pressure Checks/ Stain Glass Meeting 9:45am Baptismal Brunch 10:35am Worship 12pm Nat'l Youth Gathering Meeting *Special Offering - Tuesday's Table	8 7:30am-5pm Pre- school 8:30am Amazing Bible Study 9am-3pm Quilting 10:30am Staff 5:30pm Mission Resource Team Meet- ing	9 7:30am-5pm Preschool 9am-3pm Quilting 6pm-6:30pm Tuesday's Table @ Evangelical Covenant Church	10 7:30am-5pm Preschool 5:15pm-5:50pm Meal 6pm-6:30pm Worship 6:35pm-7:35pm Educa- tion Hour 6:35pm Baptism Orien- tation 7:45pm Faith After Hours (Choir)	11 7:30am-5pm Pre- school 9:30am Bible Study 10:40am Preschool Chapel 4pm-6:30pm Just For Kix 6pm Council	12 6:30pm Hobby Night	13 9am Bible Study
14 8:30am Worship 9:30am Coffee Hour/ Sunday School 9:45am Baptism Orientation 10:35am Worship *Opportunity to Serve Cards	15 7:30am-5pm Pre- school 8:30am Amazing Bible Study 10:30am Staff 4pm Link Board Meeting Forecaster Submissions Due	16 7:30am-5pm Preschool 10:30am Lutheran Social Service Caregiver Meeting 6pm-6:30pm Tuesday's Table @ Faith 6:30pm CMT Meeting	17 7:30am-5pm Preschool 9:30am Lydia/Mary Circle 1:30pm Hannah/Ruth Circle 5:15pm-5:50pm Meal 6pm-6:30pm Worship 6:35pm-7:35pm Educa- tion 7:45pm Faith After Hours (Choir)	18 7:30am-5pm Pre- school 9:30am Bible Study 10:40am Preschool Chapel 1:30pm Rachel Circle 4pm-6:30pm Just For Kix 6:30pm Faith On Tap @ Goat Ridge Brewery in New London	19	20 9am Bible Study
21 8:30am Worship 9:30am Coffee Hour/ Sunday School 10:35am Worship - 3yr olds receive Bibles	22 7:30am-5pm Pre- school 8:30am Amazing Bible Study 10:30am Staff	23 7:30am-5pm Preschool 1pm-7pm Blood Drive 6pm-6:30pm Tuesday's Table @ Peace Lutheran	24 7:30am-5pm Preschool 9am-12pm Prairie Community Services 5:15pm-5:50pm Meal 6pm-6:30pm Worship 6:35pm-7:35pm Educa- tion/ Mentor Interest Meeting 7:30pm Faith After Hours (Choir)	25 7:30am-5pm Pre- school 9:30am Bible Study 10:40am Preschool Chapel 4pm-6:30pm Just For Kix	26	27 9am Bible Study
28 8:30am Worship 9:30am Coffee Hour/ Sunday School 9:35am Annual Meeting 10:35am Worship	29 7:30am-5pm Pre- school 8:30am Amazing Bible Study 9am-3pm Quilting 10:30am Staff	30 7:30am-5pm Preschool 9am-3pm Quilting 6pm-6:30pm Tuesday's Table @ Faith by NLS Lions	31 7:30am-5pm Preschool 5:15pm-5:50pm Meal 6pm-6:30pm Worship 6:35pm-7:35pm Con- gregational Service Project 7:45pm Faith After Hours (Choir)			

FAITH LUTHERAN CHURCH

310 Medayto Drive
Spicer, MN 56288

ADDRESS SERVICE
REQUESTED

NON-PROFIT ORGANIZATION

U.S. POSTAGE PERMIT #8

SPICER, MN 56288



PHONE

320.796.2522

EMAIL: office@faithspicer.org

WEBSITE: www.faitfspicer.org

Worship Times

Labor Day — Memorial Day

At Faith Lutheran Church

Wednesdays 6:00pm-6:30pm

Sunday at 8:30am & 10:35am

Education Hour at 9:30am

Memorial Day — Labor Day

At Green Lake Bible Camp Chapel

Saturday at 6:00pm

Sunday at 8:30am

At Faith — Sunday at 10:00am

We make a living by what we get,
but we make a life by what we GIVE.

Check out the many ways you can make a difference here at Faith. Take a look inside and see what mission tugs at your heart. Can you spare an hour or two a month? That's not too much to ask for is it? You may make a new friend or run into some old ones. So open up your Faith Forecaster and read on. THANK YOU!