

REGISTER FOR SUMMER CAMP AT GLLM

All Faith kids who are attending camp this summer will receive **\$100 off for a full week of camp and \$50 for a half week of camp.** Simply mark Faith Lutheran Church as your congregation during your camp registration, and Faith will send the money to GLLM when we receive the list of kids from Faith attending camp. Additional scholarships are also available for those who need it, simply contact the church office.



PRESIDENT'S DAY SKI TRIP

Our annual President's Day Ski Trip will be on **Monday, February 17th to Andes Tower Hills in Kensington, MN. We will leave Faith Lutheran at 8:30am and return at approximately 5:30pm for students in grades 6-12.** Cost varies depending on equipment rental, see registration for more details. Registration forms are available in Welcome Center and are due on Wednesday February 12th . Please see Quentin with any questions at youth@faithspicer.org



SR. HIGH YOUTH GATHERING

Registration is open for our Sr. High Youth Gathering on **April 4th-5th in Redwood Falls, MN under theme "Faith over Fear" for students in grades 9-12.** The gathering includes many of the same things as the Jr. High Youth Gathering- large group worships, snacks, nightlife, and great speakers as well more time for service projects and small group bible studies. **The cost is \$80** and covers transportation, meals, lodging at a hotel, and the event fee. Registrations forms are at the Welcome Center.



FEBRUARY MISSION OF THE MONTH: FAMILY PROMISE

At Family Promise, our mission is to unite faith communities to bridge socioeconomic and generational divides by providing Food, Shelter, and Friends to children in need.

Your involvement is pivotal, and we invite you to consider contributing through a one-time donation or becoming a monthly donor. Your support is integral to ensuring we can continue our vital work in Kandiyohi County. **Your contribution makes a meaningful difference in the lives of the most vulnerable children in our community.**



QUILTING

February 10 & 11 & February 24 & 25, 9:00am-3:00pm

RACHEL CIRCLE BIBLE STUDY

Thursday, February 27 @ 1:30 at the home of Sandy George.



NON-PROFIT ORGANIZATION
U.S. POSTAGE PERMIT #8
SPICER, MN 56288

FAITH LUTHERAN CHURCH
310 Medayto Drive
Spicer, MN 56288
ADDRESS SERVICE
REQUESTED



Website: faithspicer.org
Email: office@faithspicer.org
Address: 310 Medayto Drive, Spicer, MN 56288
Phone: 320.796.2522
Office Hours: Monday - Thursday 8:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.



WELCOME TO FAITH'S FAMILY!

We are so excited to welcome our newest members to Faith! Make sure to say hello when you see them!!

Lisa, Mike & Jack Thielke

Derek, Megan & Clara Dyrdahl

Coleton & Teah Ditttrich

Colin, Kayla, Lily & Ellis Wright



FIRST COMMUNION WORKSHOP AT CAMP

March 15, 9:00am-4:30pm | Green Lake Bible Camp | ~~\$85 per kid~~ **FREE!**

This is a great option for any kids who couldn't make it to the Fall First Communion Event at Faith. Pastor Tim is planning to attend with the Faith kids who go, and the instruction will be similar to our class in the Fall. [Register at gllm.org/youth-retreats.html](http://gllm.org/youth-retreats.html)

A WORD FROM PASTOR TIM:
We just entered the sweet spot!

The “sweet spot” in baseball relates to the bat striking the ball where it can be driven hard. There is a certain sound when this happens which can be felt by the batter and overheard by the fans in the stands. It is the “crack” of the bat.

This month we are in between the end of our annual meeting and the start of the Lenten season. I am giving thanks for our church’s past year and looking forward to the future. “The sweet spot” for me is to reflect and then move forward. I am not rushing for the future, and I am not bogged down with anxiety about the past. I am trying to walk with God in the present! Perhaps you are as well.

In my devotions I came upon this quote on faith by Gerhard Ebeling:

“These elements in the message of Jesus – the nearness of the rule of God, the clarity of his will, and the simplicity of discipleship, with joy, freedom, and lack of anxiety-are the interpretation of one thing, the call of faith. But it is seen in the context of the remarkable authority of the person of Jesus. If discipleship means sharing in the way of Jesus, then understanding his preaching the will of God means sharing in his freedom, and understanding his message of the rule of God means sharing in his joy, his obedience, and his courage in the face of the nearness of God.”

Now this is a German author who writes compactly but the point is to be a follower of Jesus means to live in his freedom, share in his joy, and have courage because God is near! That is where I want to be! That is where I want you to be! That is where I hope Faith Lutheran of Spicer finds itself.

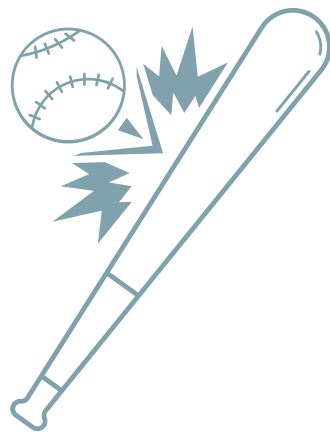
We are not stuck – we are followers of Jesus. We are not anxious – we are trusting in God. What a great day to look around and realize God is here.

In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.
Amen.

God be with you!

Pastor Tim
February 2025

*Blessed are those who trust in the Lord,
whose trust is the Lord.
They shall be like a tree planted by water,
sending out its roots by the stream.
It shall not fear when heat comes,
and its leaves shall stay green;
in the year of drought it is not anxious,
and it does not cease to bear fruit. (Jer. 17:7-8)*



A WORD FROM PASTOR KATHERINE



in the midst of quiet hills
steeped with green pines,
I heard within my heart the call
of the gentle Jesus-Shepherd.

a haunting of my heart
yet with consolation offered,
for the valley indeed was dark
and I, in need of courage.

I saw him standing there,
hand outstretched in welcome:
“Ah, little lamb, I love you.
trust in me to care well for you.”

I looked from the window
cautious like a Much-Afraid:
then quietly Courage knelt inside me
and my valley of fear began to fade.

the sun took over the shadows,
the Shepherd took over my life.
I knew how precious the tenderness
and believed once more God’s love.

Joyce Rupp

The winter, with its harsh cold winds and layers of frozen earth is a natural proclamation of patient courage. In time, the snow melts and the greening of spring comes. Often, during this season of darkness moving slowly toward light, many of us struggle with old recurring stories or the uncertainty of new challenges that threaten life as we have grown accustomed to it. Jim Wolff states in his book *As I Have Loved You*:

Until put to the test, no one
can really know who or
what he or she is; life alone
manifests the quality of
individual existence.

It is not until we have faced some winters in our lives, some challenges and struggles, that we are able to know our own courage and are able to understand just how brave we can be when it is necessary to have a courageous heart.

Courage does not mean just gritting our teeth for an endurance test. Courage **does** mean drawing from an inner source, relying on the Lord’s strength to give us the confidence and hope we need. It means believing that we can make it, not on our own power, but on the divine power that is always available if we ask for it. Courage is never learned overnight. It results from long years of practice and patience, being brave enough to face what life sends us. Courage is growing through the hardships of life without bitterness or cynicism. With courage, a struggle can develop in us a mellowness and a deeper sensitivity.

I believe there is great opportunity for spiritual growth and renewal as we practice the discipline of courage. Courage helps us to accept what cannot be changed and to struggle through what needs changing. Courage helps us to gently say what we believe and to hold on to what we know is of value despite the fear of failure or rejection. Courage enables us to offer forgiveness whether or not there is a response and to love generously even when all odds seem against that love being received or return.

It occurs to me that courage and the Holy Spirit are somewhat synonymous. If you are experiencing one of those times that require an extra measure of courage - the prayer of the faithful might best be a petition for a greater share of Christ’s Holy Spirit! Of course we know that, it’s just that when we are overly anxious we tend to place our trust in plans or ideas conformed to this world. But courage separated from the Holy Spirit can lead to very bold mistakes with far-reaching consequences.

Courageous and Spirit-filled people are those who despite their fears constantly stretch themselves to take risks and to meet challenges. They know how to laugh and enjoy life even in the most difficult of times; they see opportunities in the midst of crisis for bearing witness to the Good News of God in Jesus Christ. Together, by God’s grace, they/we have what is needed to live and serve according to his will.

May the sun take over our shadows, and the Shepherd take over our lives again and again!

God’s Peace,
Reverend Katherine Rood



January 1-December 31, 2024					
	YTD Budget	2024	2023	Difference	Compared to Budget
Income	616,082.00	606,353.75	557,033.77	49,319.98	(9,728.25)
Expense	553,850.00	562,676.90	574,008.17	(11,331.27)	8,826.90
Net Income	62,232.00	43,676.85	(16,974.40)	60,651.25	(18,555.15)
	YTD Budget	2024	2023	Difference	Compared to Budget
Income	616,082.00	606,353.75	557,033.77	49,319.98	(9,728.25)
Expense	553,850.00	562,676.90	574,008.17	(11,331.27)	8,826.90