



There are many reasons to be glad to see 2021 come to an end, and to hope for a better 2022. But before we go running into the New Year, let's pause and reflect on the year that we have just experienced. Challenges, hardship, and struggle can be useful tools when used in hindsight. We gain insight when we invite the Holy Spirit to join us in reflecting on the past, learning what it has to teach us, and applying it to the present and future. So before you completely shut the door on 2021, see what you can learn from it and apply to the New Year. Ponder these questions:

- \* Do you typically make New Year's resolutions? Why or why not?
- \* What is one lesson you learned in 2021?
- \* How have past challenges or struggles led to wisdom in your life?
- \* What can you take from 2021 into 2022 that compels you to live differently?
- \* Spend some time reflecting on what you learned in 2021 and then commit to living differently in 2022. Listen to the Holy Spirit to discern where God is calling you. Happy New Year!

Pastor Seyward

**For surely, I know the plans I have for you, says the LORD, plans for your welfare and not for harm, to give you a future with hope.**  
*Jer. 29:11*

Greetings from your interim pastor. Please know that I look forward to serving with you all as January 2022 unfolds. Also, please know that every interim transition has a beginning, a middle and an end.

The interim's initial role is to find a few folks of the congregation who would be willing to reflect upon the past history of this church as you once pursued faith ventures together. That might include the chapter where you all moved from one building to another building. It might celebrate the ongoing relationship that Faith has continued with Green Lake Lutheran Ministries. I am curious about the Holy Spirit's energy in a few people who pursued a community garden nearby, an outdoor worship space, a columbarium on site, an ongoing passion for social concerns in the county. That said, I am hopeful that this committee would initiate a survey with me, seek input from the congregation, communicate examples of changing demographics in the county, the school system and more. This data is used by the committee to prepare a Ministry Site Profile that will be helpful to a second group of folks who will become Faith's next call committee.

So, to clarify, the first group of volunteers will need data seekers, story tellers and folks who can envision a fresh future. This group will be busy with time commitments in January, February, March. With the council's approval, this group passes a completed Ministry Site Profile to a Call Committee still to be formed. Perhaps you have gifts for serving on a call committee. That committee would have time commitments beginning in the spring. (More on that middle timing of the interim in future articles).

Thank you for your ongoing prayers for the Holy Spirit to guide and lead us. May our plans be in sync with God's plans. May our Creator God give us a future with hope.

Interim Pastor Gary

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

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

January 2022



# Faith News



310 Medayto Drive  
 Spicer, MN 56288

**Website:** [www.faithspicer.org](http://www.faithspicer.org)  
**Email:** [office@faithspicer.org](mailto:office@faithspicer.org)  
**Phone:** 320.796.2522  
**Facebook:** Faith Lutheran Church

**Office Hours:**  
 Monday - Thursday 9 a.m. - 5 p.m.



*Faith will be hosting a Red Cross Blood Drive on  
 Tuesday, January 25th from noon to 6 p.m.  
 Please consider helping save a life.*

## Worship Schedule

*Please pray for...*

Sundays:

~ Lila Burmeister  
 ~ Sharon Johnson  
 ~ Jamie Oie, son of Ray  
 and Nona Oie

9 a.m. Worship  
 10 a.m. Fellowship  
 10 a.m. Sunday School

Wednesdays "The Feast":

5:15 p.m. Meal  
 6 p.m. Worship  
 6:35 p.m. Educational Opportunities  
 7:35 p.m. Faith Chancel Choir

*Find our worship services on our  
 YouTube channel, [faithspicer.org](http://faithspicer.org),  
 or Facebook page*





# Children & Youth



Praise+Play begins January 1 under new ownership, Loving Arms Child Care Center and Vinje Lutheran Church. Construction began to remodel rooms for toddler and infant care during our Christmas break. It is an exciting time to be able to expand Faith's mission to offer additional child care in the New London/Spicer area which at this time has

over 200 plus unmet child care needs. Praise+Play begins 2022 filled with thanks and gratitude for all that Faith has done for us and your mission has blessed us greatly. Faith will always be a part of who Praise+Play is! Patsy



**Sunday School Christmas Program**  
Thanks to all who helped!



Our confirmation students wrapped the gifts they purchased for The Link's "angel tree." Thank you to the kids and adult volunteers for their work on this great service project!



We are excited to welcome our new Youth Ministry Director, Quentin! He will be joining us early January.



# Opportunities

Faith's Circle of Support is offering a grief support group beginning in February. Brenda Weise will be leading it for several weeks on Tuesdays or Thursdays at Faith. If you are interested or have questions, please let the church office know and designate which day and time (day or evening) would work best for you.



JOIN US FOR

**WOMEN, WINE & THE WORD**

Thursday, January 20th 6:30pm  
Abby Zylstra's Home  
8746 Riverwood Cir  
New London

*Thank you to all of our Christmas Eve worship assistants that made our candlelight services go smoothly and to all of our worship, fellowship, and Feast volunteers throughout 2021!*

Mission of the Month  
January:



*Tornado Relief Efforts*

# Looking Ahead...

Stick me on your fridge so you don't miss anything!

1/11 & 1/12	9 a.m. - 3 p.m.	Quilting
1/13	6 p.m.	Council Mtg.
1/25	Noon - 6 p.m.	Red Cross Blood Drive
1/25 & 1/26	9 a.m. - 3 p.m.	Quilting
1/20	6:30 p.m.	Women, Wine, & the Word at Abby Zylstra's home
1/21	6:30 p.m.	Hobby Night in the Fireside Rm
1/27	1:30 p.m.	Rachel Circle Bible Study at Phyllis Jacobson's home
1/30	10 a.m.	Congregation Annual Mtg.
Sundays	9 a.m. 10 a.m. 10 a.m.	Worship Sunday School Fellowship
Wednesdays	5:15 p.m. 6 p.m. 6:35 p.m. 7:35 p.m.	Meal Worship Educational Opportunities Faith Chancel Choir
Thursdays	9:30 a.m.	Bible Study in the Fireside Room
Saturdays	9 a.m.	Men's Bible Study

## Serving on Sundays

Faith needs lots of volunteers to help everything run smoothly! There is a Sign-up Genius page or you can also call the office if you're willing to assist! Your participation makes everything happen at Faith!



January 1 - November 31			
	YTD Budget	2021	2020
Income	542,276.55	509,861.21	588,058.20 [1]
Expense	540,773.23	529,119.46	582,842.33
Net Income	1,503.32	-19,258.25	5,215.87
Mortgage Principal TTL		47,712.68	46,213.75
Inner Fund Transfer/Grant		\$18,246.71	\$72,309.31
Net Profit (Loss)	<b>\$1,503.32</b>	<b>\$46,701.14</b>	<b>\$123,738.93</b>