

YOUTH & KID SUMMER EVENTS

PRE-K VBS

This VBS is for kids entering Preschool and Kindergarten and is located at Faith Lutheran Church on **Monday, July 29th-Thursday, August 1st from 8:30am - 11:00am**. This VBS is the mini version of our Elementary age Onsite Day Camp at Shores of St. Andrew and will be also doing the GLLM theme of "Created To Be". It will have daily Bible lesson, craft, snack, games, outdoor activities, music and small group time. It is led by Faith Lutheran and Peace Lutheran staff and volunteers. All from the community are welcome! Registration for the Day Camp is through Faith Lutheran Church and the cost is \$10 per child. To sign up, volunteer to help, donate supplies or get more info contact Libbie Anderson at 651-399-1611 or libbieanderson@gmail.com.

ON-SITE DAY CAMP

Completed grades K-5 | Shores of St. Andrew Bible Camp | Camper Fee: \$150 (\$50 with code NLSDAYCAMP2024) | **Monday, July 29 – Thursday, August 1, 8:30am - 3:30pm**

Join us for Day Camp held at Shores of St. Andrew Bible Camp, offering a week of community-building, Bible study, crafts, games, and swimming. Area congregations and local community residents are invited to this enriching event, running Monday through Thursday. Campers return home each afternoon and come back the next morning refreshed and anticipating another fun day. A bus will pick up and drop off kids from Faith and Peace each day.

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED FOR ON-SITE DAY CAMP!

We are seeking volunteers to help with the K-5th grade VBS at Shores of St. Andrew on July 29th through August 1st. Volunteers are needed each day from 9am-3pm to help with swim time prep, keep kids on track during activities, help carry trays at lunch, and be a friendly face that the kids already know from their congregation. If you are able to do a partial day, a full day, or help with the whole week, please connect with Quentin at youth@faithspicer.org.

NIGHT GAMES AT CHURCH

Quentin will be hosting some night games at church this summer for completed grades 6-8 as a new and fun way to get together over the summer. **July 26 @ Peace, August 14 @ Faith, 8:00-10:00pm**. Each night we'll play a fun game together and close with campfire worship.

SERVICE TRIP - ST. CLOUD

AGE: Grades 6-8 | **DATE:** July 9-10 | **COST:** \$150

VALLEY FAIR SERVICE AND FUN

AGE: Grades 8-12 | **DATE:** July 15-16 | **COST:** \$150

CROW WING RIVER CANOE TRIP

AGE: Grades 6-8 | **DATE:** August 5-8 | **COST:** \$175

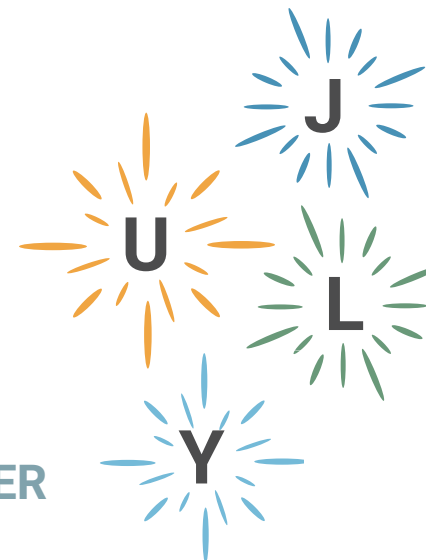
To get more information about any of the youth trips, contact Quentin - youth@faithspicer.org. Registration forms at the Welcome Center.

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

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



FAITH
LUTHERAN CHURCH
nurture | inspire | share



NEWSLETTER

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

2024

SUMMER VBS STARTS!

Mon. July 29 - Thurs. August 1:

- PreK VBS: 8:30-11:00am at Faith
- Grades K-5: 8:30am-3:30pm at Shores of St. Andrew Bible Camp
- **SEE INSIDE FOR MORE DETAILS!**



4TH OF JULY PARADE FUNDRAISER

Thank you for your support for the Youth's 4th of July Fundraiser! We are so grateful for all your bottled water donations for our annual 4th of July Fundraiser that have come in already, **THANK YOU!**

We are still accepting donations right up until July 4. If you're at the parade, stop by our stand at Pirotta Park for some shaved ice, popcorn, and water!

WOMEN, WINE & THE WORD BIBLE STUDY

Thursday, July 25 @ 6:30pm | 3895 60th Ave NE, Willmar

Join together with some other awesome women for an evening of devotion led by Pastor Katherine and fun fellowship! Jennifer Davenport is hosting this month's event.

A WORD FROM PASTOR TIM: Summer Musings

Shari and I have just returned from Camp House in the Brimson area of our state. As an extension of Green Lake's ministry, we had a wonderful time led by the location, the staff, and the worship provided. One of the nights, like much of our state, we had so much rain that flooding of the roads started early the next morning. We were an island. This gave me time to read some of the books I brought and to consider some of our church's hopes going into the future. Please see below!

1. When I started in February 2023, we had just hired a Director of Christian Education and were in the process of hiring a new Director of Music. Our Director of Christian Education is no longer with us. We have covered that time allotment, (32 hours), with coverage by Tina, (our Administrator), the Christian Education Committee, the Ministry Associate from Green Lake, and volunteers. This has gone well for planning and communication.

In the fall we will need some help in prepping for Sunday School and communicating the lessons to the teachers. This will be a 4/5 hours per week paid position. If you might be interested in some part-time work at church, please let me know. The work is to be done during the regular work week not Sundays.
2. Pastor Katherine is on a part-time yearly contract and when she wants to...will step back into retirement. At council we would like your help in preparing our Mission Site Profile to consider our pastoral needs while we are not scrambling for coverage. If you would be interested in helping to write and reflect with me on the mission of our church, please contact me!
3. Lastly, it is my hope that you are enjoying your summer. The Spicer area is a wonderful place to enjoy the outdoors with family. I hope to share some Community Garden pictures but gardening for the first time in over 30 years reminded me of how much growth depends on God's care of creation! Here is a Bible verse from Lamentations to keep you company:

**"The steadfast love of the Lord never ceases,
his mercies never come to an end;
they are new every morning;
great is your faithfulness.
'The Lord is my portion,' says my soul,
'therefore I will hope in him.'"**

God be with you!

Pastor Tim (Ordinary Time)

JULY MISSION OF THE MONTH: AMERICAN RED CROSS

The American Red Cross, through its strong network of volunteers, donors and partners, is always there in times of need. We aspire to turn compassion into action. An average of 90 cents of every dollar the American Red Cross spends is invested in delivering care and comfort to those in need.

CONVERSATIONS THAT MATTER

At the risk of being a "dark" harbinger of a society too long neglecting responsible policies and oversight of technological advances introduced for common use, please consider what follows. We've become accustomed, even addicted, to our latest toys and tools that can benefit or entertain us, but is that ok?

Geoffrey Hinton CC FRS GRSC is a 76-year-old British-Canadian computer scientist and cognitive psychologist. Attending the University of Edinburgh (1972-1975) and King's college, Cambridge (1967-1970), he is considered the Godfather of Artificial Intelligence, having written algorithms in his work to support neural networking models (the mapping of the human brain) which failed. However, he did succeed in revolutionizing the field of AI, winning many prestigious awards: the Turing Award, the Princess of Asturias Award for Technical and Scientific Research, a Nobel Award and more.

In an interview with Scott Pelley on 60 Minutes, airing June 16th, 2024, he warned the audience of an unintended and dangerous consequence of his life's work, stating that current AI has been programmed to learn from itself and is doing so at an exponential rate. Within five years, Hinton disclosed, AI will be smarter than humans and virtually unstoppable. He urged the global community to act now to provide oversight and to implement policies that will allow human beings to retain control, as opposed to the probable reverse. Sound a little too Sci-Fi for your taste?

Pope Francis recently addressed the G7 Summit, a group of seven countries, including the U.S., who gather to discuss global matters of import for the benefit of humanity. The Pontiff speculated that global "technocratic systems" could exploit the efficiencies of AI without regard for the larger impacts on the poor, sacrificing humanity for efficiency. Further stating, "There is a risk that the criteria behind certain decisions will become less clear, responsibility for those decisions concealed, and producers enabled to evade their obligation to act for the benefit of the community."

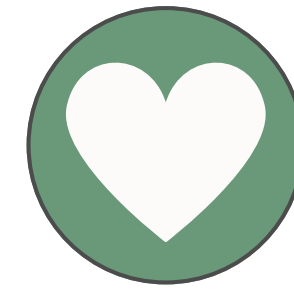
Given the human propensity to be concerned with self-promotion and greed at the cost of those considered expendable, is cause for alarm.

Dear Pastor, you say, what does this have to do with us? Well, we all have Smart Phones, except Les (he has a flip phone) and AI is already a part of the fabric of our lives: Medicine, Pharmaceutical Research, Banking, Automobile Industry, Education, Politics, Government, and whatever else you can name. Make no mistake, AI offers decided benefits to humanity, but negative impacts need to be regulated. Already, our private information is being hacked by nefarious individuals seeking ransom money from hospitals, clinics, schools, businesses, and... well, you get the idea.

What can we do? Faith Lutheran's "Wine, Women, & the Word" met a week ago to discuss this very topic and surfaced some potential responses from our Community of Faith and other institutions of influence. We acknowledged that information is key, as is being aware, proactive, and mindful of all the ways AI intersects with our lives. Providing education for parents, students, and the elderly through central hubs like: Schools, Social Services, Law Enforcement, Adult Forums, feel free to offer your own suggestions! Letters could be written to our Legislators insisting on policies and oversight that keeps what is key for our best life together, for all human beings, central. No exceptions!

It would be great to have a group willing to be a part of an Outreach Team that could narrow, or widen, our focus. This too, is the Stewardship of our faith. If you are interested, send me an email, call, or stop by to chat.

God's Blessings, *Rev. Katherine Rood*



BLOOD DRIVE AT FAITH - JULY 15

Donate blood here at Faith on **Monday, July 15, from 12:00-6:00pm**. To sign up, go to www.redcross.org, click on "Find a Blood Drive" under the "GIVE BLOOD" tab, and enter the zip code 56288. If you scroll down the list, you'll find Faith Lutheran Church, Spicer and can see the available times.

GLLM QUILT AUCTION

The 40th annual Green Lake Lutheran Ministries Quilt Auction will take place Friday, July 26 and Saturday, July 27 at the Green Lake Bible Camp in Spicer! Come see over 200 handmade quilts, enjoy quilting demonstrations and live music, shop in the Makers Market for your next crafting supplies, enjoy a hotdish supper or pulled pork lunch, a silent auction, bounce house and so much more! Events take place 3:00-8:00 PM on Friday, and 9:00-11:00 AM Saturday, and the live auction starts at 12:00 PM! All proceeds benefit the ministry happening at camp. For more information and schedule, visit www.gllm.org!

ALTAR CARE VOLUNTEERS NEEDED!

Starting this fall, we are looking for more altar care volunteers to help on Sundays. We will train all interested volunteers! Please reach out to Louise Stenberg if you are able to help: 320-894-0935

January 1, 2024 - MAY 31, 2024					
	YTD Budget	2024	2023	Difference	Compared to Budget
Income	256,700.88	245,732.34	210,470.87	35,261.47	(10,968.54)
Expense	255,539.26	262,654.18	245,188.15	17,466.03	7,114.92
Net Income	1,161.62	(16,921.84)	(34,717.28)	17,795.44	(18,083.46)
Mortgage Principal TTL	24,768.31	24,462.73	24,962.52	(499.79)	(305.58)
Other Income			1,470.00	(1,470.00)	0.00
Net Profit (Loss)	25,929.93	7,540.89	(8,284.76)	15,825.65	(18,389.04)

\$51,108 of income needed each month to meet our budgeted expenses.