

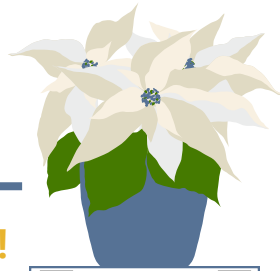
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A WORD ABOUT THIS YEAR'S ADVENT JOURNEY:

In the context of the Bible, the "power of the spoken word" refers to the significant spiritual force words possess, impacting both the speaker and the listener, and even affecting spiritual realities. Key scriptural themes include: God's creative power in his spoken Word, the incarnation of God in human flesh, and the gift of God's own breath empowering the words of ordinary people to make Christ known in time and space throughout the ages. As a people in Advent journeying toward the manger in Bethlehem, may we hear and receive our God anew!

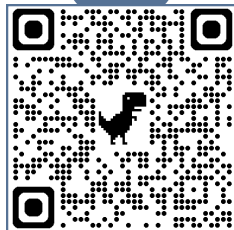
So join us on Wednesday evenings at 6:00pm as we explore together **The Word Made Flesh:**

- Wednesday, December 3: "Sharing God's Breath"
- Wednesday, December 10: "The Word Was God"
- Wednesday, December 17: "Sharing God's Word"



CHRISTMAS POINSETTIAS - ORDER NOW!

If you would like to purchase one in honor or in memory of a loved one, please fill-out an order form (found in the Welcome Center, online on our website or by scanning the QR code) and it will be included in the Christmas Bulletin. **The cost per plant is \$15 and orders are due by Sunday, December 14.**



MITTEN TREE AT FAITH - COMING SOON!

Faith is partnering with The Link in New London again for the Mitten Tree, which helps provide gifts to families who may need a little extra help.

Each mitten will have a gender and age for you to shop for gifts for as well as a family ID #. When you return the gifts, make sure the family ID # is listed on the tag so we make sure it gets to the right person! When the tree goes up, take a mitten or two and help spread some love!



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.



CHRISTMAS EVE SERVICES 2025
Wednesday, December 24: Services at 3:00 & 5:00pm
Faith Church Office will be closed Christmas Day.

A WORD FROM PASTOR TIM: THINKING OF THE FUTURE!

God’s blessing to all!

Whenever December comes, it is hard not to think of Mary - teenager and mother of Jesus. She was already living with pressure - baby and societal pressure. I did not mention Joseph, but it could not have been easy to sort out the relational issues of trust that were present in their engagement. Yikes!

We hear counseling words like “be present – face what you can today – leave tomorrow’s worries for another day.” I doubt those modern words were present in her reality though...perhaps her thoughts were struck by the cruelty of Roman rule to her people. The road could not have been smooth on her travels to Bethlehem to complete a census.

All these realities - pushing, pulling, growing belly, and tension are part of her life. They are not the only words of reality for Mary though...God also impacts her reality. The angelic messengers, words of promise and hope, and her response affects her reality.

Listen again, “*And he came to her and said, ‘Greetings, favored one! The Lord is with you.’ But she was much perplexed by his words and pondered what sort of greeting this might be. The angel said to her, ‘Do not be afraid, Mary, for you have found favor with God. And now, you will conceive in your womb and bear a son, and you will name him Jesus. He will be great and will be called the Son of the Most High, and the Lord God will give to him the throne of his ancestor David. He will reign over the house of Jacob forever, and of his kingdom there will be no end. For nothing will be impossible with God.’ Then Mary said, ‘Here am I, the servant of the Lord; let it be with me according to your word.’ Then the angel departed from her.*” (Luke 1)

God is impacting her reality! God is impacting our reality. This is the power of the Christian message. There are so many things going on in the world. There are so many things affecting us. We need God to speak through this mess! Jesus is that “speech” - Word of God made flesh.

You do not need to do more. Let God do the talking! God’s speech is filled with hope for you!

Pastor Tim
(My third Advent with you)

HIGH SCHOOL SUMMER TRIP REVEAL!!

Get ready – it’s finally time for our High School (9th–12th grade) Summer Trip **Reveal!** We’ve been keeping this one under wraps, and we cannot wait to share what’s planned for this summer. Our parent meeting will happen at the same time, so you’ll get all the details right away – the where, the when, the why, and everything in between.

These meetings will take place **instead of LYF**, and you can choose whichever date works best for your family:

- **December 10 at 7:30pm at Peace**
- **December 17 at 7:30pm at Faith**

We’re so excited to finally show you what’s coming!

Faith Quilters: No quilting in December.

Rachel Circle Bible Study: December 18, at 1:30 pm at the home of Sandy George with Phyllis Jacobson leading the lesson

FINANCIAL PEACE UNIVERSITY AT FAITH

Description: If you’ve ever felt like you just can’t get in control of your money or you’re not handling your finances well, you’re not alone. You’d be surprised how many people you know are struggling just like you. But it’s time for that struggle to end – starting when you take a Financial Peace University class. In just nine lessons, you’ll learn biblical and commonsense ways of handling money. Invite a friend, classes are open to the community and start on Tuesday, January 13, 2026.

Dates: 1/13/26 – 3/10/26 (9 classes on Tuesdays 1/13, 1/20, 1/27, 2/3, 2/10, 2/17, 2/24, 3/3, 3/10)

Time: 6:30 – 8:00 pm at Faith

Cost: \$39 per household (individual or couple)
(total is \$69 but Faith is covering \$30 for each household!)



Interested in learning more or want to sign up? Scan the QR code (or head to the church website) and sign up your name and email and we will reach out with more information!

DECEMBER MISSION OF THE MONTH: TUESDAY’S TABLE

Faith hosts Tuesday’s Table each month on the third Tuesday. This is a wonderful ministry for the community and serves people from every walk of life - whether they just want an evening of fellowship or are barely making ends meet: this ministry gives them a little financial breathing room. Help support this amazing ministry today!!

The Faith Quilters would like to thank the Congregation for their generous contributions to us during the October for Faith’s Mission of the month. The monies go toward the purchase of material for tops and backs, batting, thread etc. items needed to complete the blankets. Without your contributions we would not be able to make quilts to distribute warmth and the love of Jesus to those in need. We thank you very much!

WOMEN, WINE AND THE WORD BIBLE STUDY

Thursday, December 18 @ 6:00pm | 11524 Indian Beach Rd, Spicer

Join together with some other awesome women for an evening of devotion, conversation and fun fellowship! Jill Jackson is hosting this month’s event. RSVP on Facebook or at faithspicer.org.

SUNDAY SCHOOL CHRISTMAS PROGRAM & SCHEDULE

Children's Christmas Worship Service will be Sunday, December 21 at 9:00am with cocoa and treats to follow! This is a favorite worship here at Faith!! Children's Christmas Rehearsals will be each Sunday at 10:00am in the sanctuary. There will be no Sunday School December 28.

BLUE CHRISTMAS SERVICE - SUNDAY, DECEMBER 21

If this season feels heavy, if you’re grieving, overwhelmed, missing someone, or just not feeling very joyful right now, you’re not alone. This service is a quiet space with prayer, music, and scripture. A place to breathe, to be honest, and to hear words of comfort and hope. Come as you are. Everyone is welcome.

Hosted by First Lutheran Church of Norway Lake (6338 County Rd. 40 NW, New London) with support from Peace Lutheran (New London), Faith Lutheran (Spicer), Big Grove Crow River Grace Parish (Belgrade), and the Norway Lake Lutheran Parish.

THE GREAT LUTEFISK OPENER - THANK YOU!!!!

Hello everyone.

Just wanted to take a couple of minutes of your time to express our appreciation of everyone’s effort in support of the Great Lutefisk Opener. This thanks extends to everyone that dined with us and to all the volunteers. Of the 100 plus people that volunteered directly during the event 27 were youth and another 14 were parents of involved youth. Another 60-70 adults participated in baking bread, rolling lefse, cooking fish, setting tables, preparing and serving what everyone polled said was some of the best lutefisk and meatballs they had eaten and the dessert line and lefse were excellent as well. In addition to those involved directly there were many more people **that donated butter, coffee, flour, treats and most importantly time. To all of you Mange Tusen Takk (Many Thousand Thanks).** Each of you carried out an important role in this major community event. I have visited with a number of the attendees over the past couple of weeks and while they enjoyed the meal what they really remembered was the efficiency and the exuberance that was exhibited by everyone working. One person told me that even though they did not get to eat till later all the workers including the youth were still smiling at the end of the day. Kudos to all the teams for that. A special thank you to Lisa Quam for helping get part of the food orders organized with their suppliers and to Pastor Dan Bowman for helping with the lefse.

As for the numbers here is what we know now. We are confident that slightly over 700 meals were plated which represents a sizeable increase over last year. Most people utilized the waiting time to visit with those they may not have seen since last year and listened to Sharon on the piano. People visited the fish shack from the Son's of Norway from St. Paul and other diners came from Perham and Barnesville, Minneapolis and Sunburg. This was a very successful community event that everyone should be proud to have been a part of.

While we know that it is a lot of work we are already thinking about next year so we hope we can count on many of you to join us again. **Thanks again for helping keep the tradition alive and trying a little lutefisk with your lefse.**

January - October 2025			
	YTD Income	YTD Budget	Compared to Budget
Income	439,024.97	542,628.04	(103,603.07)
Expense	491,736.91	490,313.99	1,422.92
Net Income	(52,711.94)	52,314.05	(105,025.99)

Principal mortgage payment of \$5,208 per month not included in 2025.
Average of \$52,757 needed each month to make budget & mortgage principal.
As of Oct. 31 we have borrowed \$56,212 from our designated funds in order to pay our bills and staff.