Faith Talk!

News from Faith Lutheran Church of Becker, MN
Volume 23, Number 11 November, 2021

Faith Lutheran is proud to introduce our 2021 Confirmands

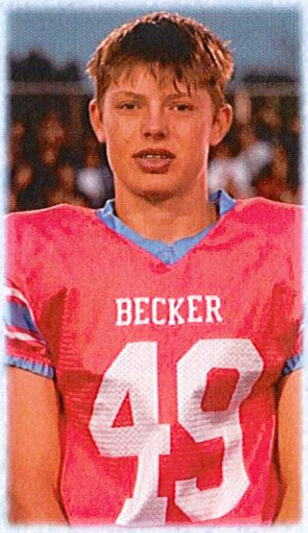
Confirmation is not an ending, but another milestone in our journey of faith. We celebrate with these young people as they affirm their baptismal promises and commit to a life of faithfulness and service with us.

Henrik "Hank" Bjerga

Kayla Brandt

Kaelyn Drayna

Kayla Meyer



Mason Nevala

Erik Olson

Greetings Beloveds,

During the month of November, we pause to give thanks to Almighty God for our many blessings and benefits. *Among my greatest gifts are all of you!* It is such an honor, and privilege, to love you, and serve as your pastor, as we walk alongside each other navigating this path we call Life.

Tasha and I, as well as our kids, were profoundly touched by the outpouring of love that you showered on us during Pastor & Family Appreciation Weekend. We wish to especially thank the members of the Worship, Mutual Ministry and Fellowship Teams for their hard work in creating such a beautiful occasion for us all to enjoy. We also wish to thank all of you!

I can hardly believe that we have been together for two years. I recently asked Donna how many people have joined the church during my tenure, and she told me 20+ families with a total of over 60 new members! ***To God be the glory, great things God has done!***

While COVID may have slowed us down, it has not stopped the wonderful ministry of love that we share with the people of our great town. One of the things I am most proud of, is that here at FLC, we are truly **#BeckerProud.** This is *our* town and *our* community. Every soul who lives here dwells in our hearts and on our prayer lists. We have covenanted to walk as Jesus would, seeking the most vulnerable members of our community, to love, serve, and defend with all our heart, mind, soul, and strength.

Truly, we are a missional congregation! As you may know, we have been honored as one of fifty churches selected to be a part of the ELCA *Congregations Lead Initiative*. I believe that this is because of our deep commitment to loving God and neighbor in visible and tangible ways that make a lasting difference in our community.

In the month of November, we will be uplifting the importance of Foster Care and Adoption. You may not realize that there are over 400,000 children in foster care throughout the United States, 9,000 of which dwell in the state of Minnesota. There is a great need for Christian people to step up, and to offer ourselves, as foster parents and forever families! This month we will partner with ***The Reel Hope Project***, as well as ***The Compassion Connection***, to learn more about how we can make a difference in the lives of kiddos who do not currently have parents who are able to care for them. Remember, Jesus said, "Let the little children come to me, and do not stop them; for it is too such as these that the kingdom of heaven belongs (Matthew 19:14)."

I look forward to continuing this glorious journey together, as pastor and people. As we follow Jesus, out of the four walls of our building, and into the community, we are sure to experience grand adventures, as we strive for justice and peace in all the earth!

Happy Thanksgiving, from my family, to yours,

Pastor Yolanda

Pastoral Acts

Baptism

Oct 10 Alayna Kay Money, daughter of Mikayla & Ryan Money

Oct 10 Xander William Royce Bradford, son of Julie & Devon Bradford

Special Thanks to:

- ☺ October assistant ministers
- ☺ The Worship Team each Sunday in October
- ☺ The Money Counters for sharing their time with us every week
- ☺ The Facility Care Team for maintaining the dishwasher

Thank you Faith Lutheran!

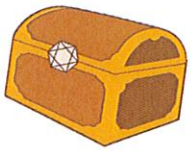
Dear FLC members,

The Becker Food Shelf thanks you for all the food you brought to our shelf.

Becker Food Shelf
JMB

Woodworking Opportunities Await

If you love to work with wood and want to be part of an incredible ministry, please contact the church office. Every person baptized at FLC is given several gifts from the congregation, and one that lasts a lifetime is the FLC Faith Chest. Hand crafted and carved by members of our congregation; each one is a unique expression of God's love. Sadly, we are currently out of chests and need your help urgently!



Nov 01 Jake Sable
Nov 02 Austin Berning
Nov 02 Xander Bradford
Nov 03 Megan Imholte
Nov 03 Miranda Bechtold
Nov 03 Sarah Colford
Nov 04 Ellie Broich
Nov 05 Emery Johannes
Nov 05 Sharon Radeke
Nov 07 Allen McCann
Nov 09 Brody Bjerga
Nov 10 Keaton Colford
Nov 10 Ryan Veldman
Nov 11 Ailee Titcomb
Nov 11 Noah Handeland
Nov 14 Cody Klatt
Nov 14 Jeff Edling
Nov 16 Marlene Olson
Nov 16 Nicole Schmidt
Nov 17 Ruth Johnson
Nov 18 Janeel Denson-Lehman
Nov 19 Bobbie Leonard
Nov 20 Jacqueline Hanson
Nov 21 Karin Pauly
Nov 21 Khloe Blattenbauer
Nov 22 Camie Ihrke
Nov 22 Grace Wynia
Nov 22 Kirsten Haessly
Nov 23 Kellan Colford
Nov 24 William Blakeney
Nov 25 Laura Bond
Nov 25 Melinda Mlenek
Nov 27 Jordyn Edling
Nov 27 Kelsey Larson
Nov 29 Mya Nevala
Nov 29 Trinity Robinson
Nov 30 Amanda Paige
Nov 30 Dominic Lombard
Nov 30 Elaine Bork
Nov 30 Elizabeth Ziemer
Nov 30 Jayden Larson
Nov 30 Melody Rust

Nov 1 Kimberly Golembeck
Nov 2 Beau Pauly
Nov 2 Kassandre Quast
Nov 2 Khloe Blattenbauer
Nov 3 Riley Defries
Nov 3 Warren Campbell
Nov 5 Sharon Radeke
Nov 10 Ashley Falenschek
Nov 10 Leah Lutgen
Nov 11 Bradly Bolton
Nov 11 Ray Person
Nov 13 Austin Sable
Nov 17 Kaelyn Lombard
Nov 18 Stephanie Graftaas
Nov 19 Scarlett Olson
Nov 22 Clara Bond
Nov 22 Lola Seifermann
Nov 23 Parker Meyer
Nov 25 Amy Anderson
Nov 25 Bradley Rust
Nov 25 Eve Aho
Nov 25 Madeline Mlenek
Nov 25 Olivia Cook
Nov 25 Rylee Gunderson
Nov 25 Vincent Cook
Nov 26 Kelsey Pederson
Nov 26 Riley Wilke
Nov 27 Katherine Aanenson
Nov 28 Anna Wynia
Nov 28 Jack Atwood
Nov 29 Brandon Abrahamson
Nov 29 Kurt Haag
Nov 30 Drake Rhodes
Nov 30 Levi Rhodes
Nov 30 Ronn Hubbard
Nov 30 Tucker Rhodes

The Compassion Connection

FLC will be collecting essential supplies for The Compassion Connection the month of November. ***Most needed essential items:***

Pajamas (All sizes newborn – teen) Socks (All sizes newborn – adult) Underwear (All sizes toddler – teen)

When kids and caregivers come to their resource center during the whirlwind hours of transitioning between homes, they get to tell them that all of the essential items stocked for them are donated by the community. Having easily accessible, quality essentials during these times of crisis is a huge weight lifted. But the greatest impact is in the tangible reminder that they are surrounded by a community that cares. The Compassion Connection is so thankful for the many individuals and businesses who show how much they care by keeping the shelves stocked for these kids and families! ❤️

Hello Beloved Children of God!

The leaves are changing, the rain is falling, the air is getting cold, and winter is right around the corner! This is my favorite time of year, warm sweatshirts, and scarves to abound! I am hunkering into school mode and trying to find a balance again of classes, schoolwork, internship, internship work, self-care, and family time. It is a lot to juggle, but I found my balance for summer term, and I know I can find a balance for fall term. Please pray for me, though, while I continue working to find that balance.

Wednesday, October 6th, was my first Spirit Art for confirmation and senior high students. I decided to start with photography and a spiritual practice. I had all the youth bring their phones for cameras and encouraged them to try out different angles, perspectives, or colorings with their pictures. We separated into four groups (*thank you to those adults who volunteered to help that night!*). Then we walked out into the neighborhood, phones in hand, to take pictures of where we saw God at work. We walked around Becker for half an hour and then returned for full group discussion.

When asked where they saw God at work, the youth said they saw God in the sunset, in the changing of the leaves, in an albino squirrel climbing a tree, in someone's garden overflowing with bird feeders. They saw God in rocks, in basketball courts, and in flags flying. They saw God in a father playing catch with his daughter. They saw God in a person giving another person a hug. They saw God in people who smiled and waved. They saw God in each other. It was beautiful to hear them talk about where they saw God in their community and to see the pictures they took.

After discussing, they all sent me their photos. I created a slideshow of them and posted it to Facebook on October 12th. For those of you who are on Facebook, I encourage you to go look at it. By the time you are reading this hopefully we will have a spot in the church where print outs of the photos will be hanging for you to view and see God from the eyes of the youth.

I suggest each of you take a moment to walk around your town and pay attention to where you see God at work. Or as you go about your ordinary day at work, or running errands, take a moment to pause and really look around you, and see God at work. God is at work in the small and big things, you just have to pause and look.

May God's face shine upon you all!
Vicar Molly

Greetings People of Faith,

Fall is here! The weather and leaves are changing. There are many things to give thanks for, one of mine is the opportunity to serve our congregation.

With that in mind, we will be having our own **Thanksgiving Service Sunday, November 21 at 2pm.** All are welcome to join us, we'd love to see your smiling faces in the pews! The service will be recorded and will start airing **on our Facebook page and YouTube on Wednesday, November 24.** So if you can't participate in person, you are welcome to view it at our convenience!

As always, if anyone has any interest in participating in Music / Worship, feel free to reach out to me.

God's Blessings!
Nathan Oliver

All Saints Sunday –November 7th

Please Remember:

Bernice Anderson
Marliss Bock
Archie Holtz
Oliver Knutson
Keith Metzger

Thanksgiving Service

Sunday, November 21 at 2pm

Join us in-person on November 21, or view it at your convenience on our Facebook page and YouTube starting November 24.

Poinsettias in December!

Once again, Faith Lutheran will be decorated with beautiful poinsettias for the Advent and Christmas season. The poinsettias will be placed at the front of the church during the holiday season, and you may take yours home after worship the Sunday after Christmas.

If you're interested feel free to stop in and fill out a form at the Welcome Center in the narthex.

September, 2021 & Year-to-Date Financial Analysis

Month of September			+ / (-)
General Fund	**Actual**	**Budget**	**vs. Budget**
Contributions	$ 15,071	$ 19,708	$ -4,637
Facility Use Income	$ 0	$ 65	$ -65
Other Income	$ 581	$ 569	$ 12
Total Income	$ 15,652	$ 20,342	$ -4,690
Expenses	$ 18,883	$ 22,020	$ 3,137
Net Income (Loss)	$ -3,231	$ -1,678	$ -1,553
Mortgage Fund	**Actual**	**Budget**	**vs. Budget**
Contributions	$ 4,432	$ 4,912	$ -480

Year-to-Date			+ / (-)
General Fund	**Actual**	**Budget**	**vs. Budget**
Contributions	$151,744	$192,150	$ -40,406
Facility Use Income	$ 300	$ 636	$ -336
Other Income	$ 7,190	$ 5,547	$ 1,643
Total Income	$159,234	$198,333	$ -39,099
Expenses	$165,131	$198,176	$ 33,045
Net Income (Loss)	$ -5,897	$ 157	$ -6054

Mortgage Fund Transactions & Balance Summary

Initial Mortgage Fund balance 1/1/2021	$ 30,504
2021 Mortgage Fund Contributions to-date	$ 51,598
Less total 2021 Mortgage Payments to-date	$ 47,888
Equals Mortgage Fund balance 9/30/2021	$ 34,214

Women of Faith's…

Annual Craft & Bake Sale is back!

The weather outside is feeling crisper these days and we are snuggling in, looking for some fun fall activities. Just in time and before the holidays, Faith Lutheran is the place to go for some 1–stop shopping!

Need gifts for friends, family or…. you? Plan on treating yourself to unique crafts from over 27 vendors showcasing everything from handmade goods, to jewelry, to clothing.

Hungry? We've got yummy baked goods and a delicious lunch available too!

So, circle this date on your calendar: ***Saturday, November 13 – 9 a.m. to 2 p.m.***

Bring your friends and family! Hope to see you there!

Thank you, FLC!

We are so grateful to each of you who have pledged your time and talent by joining a mission team. We are also thankful to those of you who have turned in your pledge card – online or on paper. By doing so, you are helping us to wisely craft a 2022 budget that will be reflective of our mission and vision here at FLC.

If you have not yet signed up for *Simply Giving*, our safe, online, giving platform, we encourage you to please give this prayerful consideration. By making a recurrent donation through *Simply Giving*, you help us to keep our income consistent throughout the year, which ensures that our ministries are possible year-round!

For adults who have not yet signed up for a Mission Team, please consider sharing a couple of hours of your time, monthly, to help *your* church share the love of Jesus with the Becker Community. Whether you serve on: Adult Education & Fellowship, Altar Care, Budget & Finance, Children, Youth, & Family, Communication & Technology, Facility Teams, Home Visitation, Hospitality, Mission & Outreach, Stewardship, and/or Worship & Music, the gift of your time is always a blessing!

Now that October is over, rest assured that our commitment to faithful stewardship continues all year long; Thank you!

To Make Your Financial Pledge:
https://faithlutheran-becker.org/stewardship-1

To Join A Mission Team:
https://faithlutheran-becker.org/mission-teams

To Enroll in Simply Giving:
https://faithlutheran-becker.org/simply-giving

Bakers are needed!

The Craft & Bake Sale needs your favorite homemade baked goods for ***Saturday, November 13!*** Cookies, bars, breads are always popular items that go quickly! Please consider contributing a baked good of your own. Whether simple or grand – we appreciate all donations! Please bring them to the church on ***Thursday, November 11 or Friday, November 12***, during office hours. **Thank you!!!**

Jesus Our Savior, Our Friend.... Sunday, November 21

If you are in kindergarten or haven't yet completed this milestone, join us for ***"Jesus Our Savior, Our Friend"*** during the Sunday School hour. Registration information will be emailed out or please contact the office. Gifts will be presented in church following the class.

Confirmation... S-Cubed

(Study, Socialize and Serve)

Our confirmation class continues to meet every Wednesday from 6-7pm in the FLC Fellowship Hall. If you have not yet joined us, it is *never* too late! Every month, we choose a theme from Luther's Small Catechism, and explore it through the creation of art, engagement in teaching, participation in community service projects, exploration of contemporary events, and visitation with a public speaker, who shares how they bring their faith to work.

In the months of September and October, we studied the Ten Commandments. Your youth took a Neighborhood Walk and photographed where they saw God in the community. They also helped to sand a deck and prep it for finishing. Finally, they heard a dynamic presentation by Minda Anderson, FLC member, and Assistant Superintendent of Becker Schools. Great things are happening in youth ministry at FLC. *Please join us!*

If you are in Grades 9-12, you are invited to join us for ***Senior High Ministries on the first and third Wednesday of the month, from 6-7pm.***

On the first Wednesday, we engage *Spirit Art*, with Vicar Molly. She teaches an art medium such as photography, watercolors, clay, collaging, charcoal and Zentangles, as we explore the teaching theme of the month. **On the third Wednesday** of the month, we partner with *Faith in Action,* to do a service project in the Becker community! If you have not yet joined us, you are heartily invited to do so; See you soon!

"Where I Am From" Poems

Based on a poem by...George Ella Lyon by our Confirmands...

by Henrik Robert Bjerga

I am from Spencer and Kari,
From my grandparents, Steve, Kathy, Betty, and Bob
I am from the great whispering pines of "up north"
I am from the Lord, and my home where I feel so much love and acceptance
I am from guitar riffs and creating amazing sounds
I am from the modes of transportations that get me around
I am from Life and all its glory
I am from bringing peace and love to the world
From understanding people's joy and sorrow
I am from forgiveness and each day is a new day
I am from joy
From content
From relaxed
I am from my adventure to Six Flags in Texas
From overcoming my health struggles at a young age
I am from adventures with my family.

by Kayla Mae Brandt

I am from Julie and Jeff Brandt.
I am from grandmas and grandpas.
I am from my brother, and my friends.
I am from relaxing in my warm, comfy home.
From getting competitive on the basketball court.
From Minnesota's lakes and pines.
I am from calm, rainy nights that put me to sleep.
From days on the lake with friends to playing spike ball on the beach.
I am from God's never-ending love, from helping others, from the hopeful betterment of the world.
I am from happiness when I am with the people I love most to anger when the Viking's lose yet another game.
I am from sadness and excitement.
I am from taking family trips to Florida and Mexico to family get-togethers at Aunt Deb's house.
I am from aging grandparents.
I am from joy and hope to see God face to face.

by Kaelyn Drayna

I am from my family and friends.
I am from love and adoption.
I am from my sister, my cousins, my aunts, and my uncles.
From singing for all to hear to swimming in the lake.
I am from braces to smiles.
I am from campfires, smores and tents.
I am from Minnesota in the warm summer sunshine and the brisk winter snow.
I am from Troop 780 to Puppy Pantry maker.
I am from my best friends to friend Ella, to being a mother figure.
I am from gaming to influencer.

(Continued on page 7)

"Where I Am From" Poems continued...

I am from mushrooms, bagels, French fries, and chicken strips.
I am from dancing with grace to kicking with intensity.
I am from quiet and shy to loud and funny.
I am from Texas to Arizona.
I am from sadness to joy and hope.
I am from God, the bible, and my church family.

by Kayla Mae Meyer

I am from the little manger scene on the buffet table
From the handprints on the concrete and Fancy Nancy's Fancy Words
I am from a wooden house with 20 acres and lots of woods to keep me safe
I am from the tall pine tree that I climbed in the backyard whose branches held me high
I am from my stuffed unicorn Uni and my horses Sunset and Ace
From Great Grandpa Leo and my littlest cousin Bridget and from messing up my words but talking way too much
From being extremely clumsy and strong willed
I am from memorizing a verse and getting a smartie
From Krumkakes and spritz cookies
From A multitude of John Deere tractors and from overcoming unthinkable odds
From sitting in front of the fireplace with my old dog Jack
I am from the moments
That made me who I am
I am from a little wooden house in the small town of Becker

by Mason Richard Nevala

I am from Mya, from Dad and mom.
I am from up north, from my house and Montana.
I am from dogs, from fishing and sports.
I am from being on time, from working hard and being nice.
I am from happy and mad, frustrated, and sleepy.
I am from my first deer, from winning a championship and losing a loved one.
I am from Joshua 1:9.

by Erik Nils Olson

I am from Wayne, Judy, and Karl
I am from a comfy chair, a bed, and anywhere my dog is
I am from my books, my dog, and my cat
I am from curiosity, comedy, and understanding
I am from joy, confusion, stress, and hope
I am from a car crash, a funeral, and time with a puppy
I am from Luke 6:31

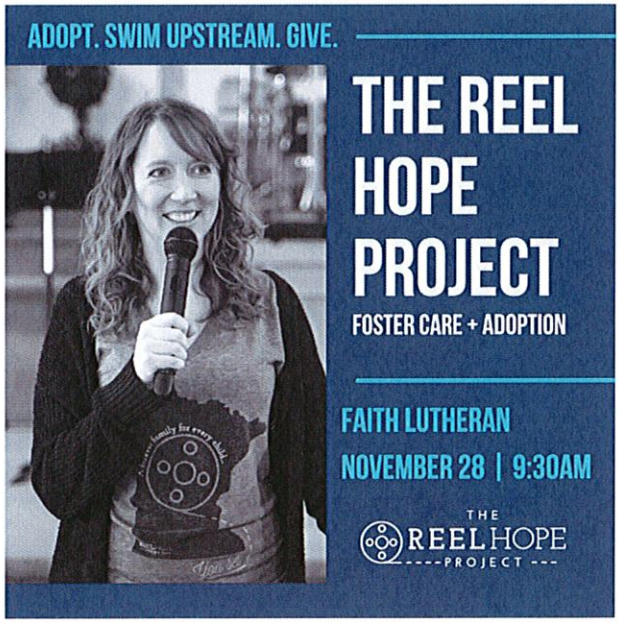
Daylight Saving Time Ends...
Remember to set your clocks back 1 hour on Saturday, November 6!

Boundless: God Beyond Measure Mission Trip
July 24-28, 2022

This mission trip is slightly different from previous mission trips FLC has gone on. ***This is the ELCA National Youth Gathering*** which happens in a different location in the US every three years and over 30,000 youth from nationwide attend. In 2022, the gathering will be held in Minneapolis!

Each day the youth will be divided into groups, and complete service projects throughout the city. They will also have interactive learning, bible study, and end each night in a mass gathering with worship in the US Bank Stadium. This trip is specifically for youth in 9th – 12th grade. It is a wonderful way for youth to meet other youth throughout the nation and have a faith-filled experience together in God's name.

The early bird registration ends November 21, we would like to get everyone registered by then, if possible. This is not a trip that is dependent on a certain number of people willing to go, in order to go. If only one youth and their adult want to attend, then they can still go. If any youth are interested, please contact Pastor Yolanda or Vicar Molly and we will get you more information about it.



Church Council

Mike Doering
President (1/22)
763-262-4790

Ruth Johnson
Vice President (1/22)
320-260-9022

Staza Pany
Treasurer (1/23)
763-261-5814

Kathy Neill
Secretary (1/22)
763-262-6245

At Large Members

Melissa Binnall (1/23)
701-212-3799

Gwen Dunteman (1/22)
763-614-7458

James Hintermeister
(1/23)
612-670-7066

Summary of Faith Lutheran Church Council Meeting Minutes – September 9, 2021

(For full minutes contact the church office)

In Attendance: Mike Doering, Ruth Johnson, Staza Pany, Nate Oliver, Gwen Dunteman, James Hintermeister, Pastor Yolanda, Vicar Molly, Sue Doering, Melissa Binnall, Donna Brown
Absent: Kathy Neill, Kayla Meyer.

PASTORAL UPDATES

Devotion – Pastor Yolanda gave a devotion based on the article "Q&A: Rev. Allen T. Stanton on Changing the Way We Think about Rural Churches"

Pastor Yolanda Report – Pastor Yolanda shared a recent SCAM email that was sent to council members from "supposedly" her account. She reminded everyone to carefully read and then check with her if the email doesn't sound like something she would say or ask someone to do.

Vicar Molly – With the start of a new semester, she will have a new schedule: it will be all day on Tuesdays; evenings on Wednesdays. Her 3 mo. report/evaluation with Pastor Yolanda is now due. Pastor Yolanda spoke highly of her work so far. Vicar Molly continues to work on organizing and cataloging library and still has 2 or 3 "one-on-one interviews" left to do.

TREASURER'S REPORT

YTD Budgeted General Fund Income: ($34,000); General Income Expenses: $29,908; Net Income/(Loss): ($4,500). YTD Mortgage Fund: $4,361 YTD 2021 TOTAL Income (Loss): $2,108

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

Communication procedures for Council items: Mike reminded everyone to contact him directly via phone call, text or email if something is missed at council rather than emailing all and asking for a vote.

Carpet cleaning – Long & Sons will be at church on Monday, Sept. 20 @ 8AM to clean the carpeting in the Narthex, office, in front of Fellowship Hall doors and to spot clean sanctuary, i.e. altar area and in between pews.

Nathan's resignation from his council position was received and accepted because he is now employed by FLC. There are now 3 vacant positions that are available for appointments if someone is interested.

OLD BUSINESS

Open position: office associate – No new applications were received. Mike will be contacting previous applicants to see if they remain interested in the position and one that was not previously interviewed. Executive team has chosen Thursday, September 30 at 4:00 pm as an interview date for those choosing to be interviewed/re-interviewed.

God's Work Our Hands/Rally Sunday – FLC will be joining all of the ELCA churches nationwide in celebrating this event. Children will be returning for Sunday School at 8:30, worship service at 9:30, then 2 teams will go to 2 homes in the area to do yard work, while 2 teams will work at church making cards, Scouts are making "Grab and Go" snacks for refreshments that day.

ELCA Congregation Lead Initiative Grant – FLC has not received any news re: our submission for this grant. We should hear back from them sometime this month.

Car Show update – Their final meeting is tonight, at this point possible car show participants have been contacted, food and craft vendors are signed up, we just need more volunteers needed to help with activities along with additional $5/$10 gift certificates for prizes.

MISSION TEAM REPORTS/UPDATE OF TEAM DESCRIPTION & RESPONSIBILITIES

Adult Education and Fellowship – Ruth Johnson

Adult Rally Sunday – will be held on Sept. 19. This event is to encourage adults to sign up for mission teams. There will be tables set up in Narthex hosted by council liaisons to share information about the teams which they represent. This event also coincides with FLC's anniversary. Ruth will make table tents, James Doering will set up tables.

Rev. Keith Pearson – from the ELCA Foundation will be here on Oct. 3 to share information on establishing an endowment at FLC. He will preach that Sunday and make a presentation in the Fellowship Hall after church.

REEL Hope – Nov. 28 People from the REEL Hope Project will be peaching that Sunday, along with making an adult presentation during coffee hour.

New Member training, Sept. 19 – Yolanda will be meeting with new members after church for a one session training.

Altar Care Team – Gwen Dunteman

FLC will continue to offer communion 1/month.

Budget and Finance – Staza Pany

Dedicated accounts concern – Staza found a policy re: dedicated accounts that FLC could use as a starting point to help determine which dedicated accounts should continue and which could be incorporated into the general fund. Discussion around this item included: **a)** initial dedicated funds can be established, new ones need to be applied for **b)** FLC's capital improvement account needs to be *funded*, **c)** currently some of the dedicated funds accounts are also line items in the budget **d)** specific events that have dedicated accounts and leave dollars for start-up funds, can they remain? **e)** some accounts have funds that have been raised by groups rather than gifted by donors, can they remain? Further discussion was held on which funds can/should remain as dedicated funds and the difference between funds that are restricted (money comes from individual gifts -- need permission to move) and unrestricted (money comes fund raisers, etc. permission not needed by donors). Questions were also raised as to whether or not designated funds can be put in the endowment fund. The Budget and Finance team will meet prior to October's council meeting to determine further clarification about dedicated accounts and the questions that were raised.

VANCO/Simply Giving app has a new look – They are discontinuing current mobile app. People need to download new one which also has more features than previous one.

Facility Care/Review – James Hintermeister

Lawn has been recently mowed. James will check into replacing outside light bulb by front doors. Play area is not being used, and is rather weedy but will be kept for now. Siding on north side of building still needs to be repaired. Tree for Oliver Knutson will be planted in spring

Children Youth & Family – Melissa Binnall

Sunday School/Grapple

PK-6th grade classes will start this Sunday at 8:30 – still in need of volunteers so just large group classes at this point. Sign outside needs to be updated with times.

Confirmation/Sr. High – Pastor Yolanda + Molly have developed and sent schedule for the entire year. There will be a Confirmation retreat this coming weekend. Wayne Bachler & Pastor Yolanda will be overseeing the sessions. Pastor Yolanda met with other area churches and found out that many of children are not returning to church either. One FLC family pulled their child because our church has not had mission trips in the past 2 years. Youth ministry will be challenging this year, some of our children are going to other churches where there are more people and a larger program.

Safe Haven training – on line on our website. It consists of watching a video, reviewing the Safe Haven policy, filling out checklist and signing attestation form. Council members need to complete this training before next council meeting. Everyone with a key needs to go through the training by the end of September.

Home Visitation – Gwen Dunteman

Team members are making phone calls, making visits, bringing communion to shut-ins.

Hospitality Team – Kathy Neill

Council members expressed their appreciation for new worship and music coordinator reception hosted by Hospitality Team.

(*Items sent by Kathy to be included at Council meeting*: On October 17, there will be a Welcome Back to church BBQ and Celebration of Pastor Yolanda and her family as it is the anniversary of her start date with FLC. Hamburgers and Judy's corn dogs will be served. More details to come! A huge thanks to Dick Sowers for fixing the cold water faucet in the kitchen.)

Mission and Outreach Team – Mike Doering & Pastor Yolanda

Current Confirmation students have had 2 years of confirmation during COVID, missing much of what is typical in their learning.

Mutual Ministry Team – had a meeting last week with a reminder to keep lifting up Pastor Yolanda in our prayers and supporting her work at church.

Music &Worship/ Communication & Technology – Nathan Oliver

Expressed appreciation for help with transition in new position; bells start next week, band plays on Sunday. Technology is going well.

Stewardship Team – Pastor Yolanda

October is stewardship month, and we will be highlighting the importance of sharing our time, treasures and talents. There is now a Stewardship tab on web page to make everything easy. We will have a collection of giving cards on Oct. 24. Thank you! to our congregation for the many gifts they have given. Giving has increased since council members have been sharing ministry moments.

NEW BUSINESS

Bishop Dee Pederson – will be at FLC on October 31 to preach/lead worship (Confirmation Sunday).

ADJOURNMENT

Motion made by Staza Pany, seconded by James Hintermeister to adjourn. Next meeting will be Thursday, October 14, at 5pm.

Jack's Column

By Jack Knothe

What time is it? Take time. Time out. Time is essence. I have more time than money. Time controls our daily lives. Early mankind used the day light and the dark, the seasons to control their lives. The Nile River flooded its banks early bringing much needed water for crop growth. This occurrence encouraged Egyptians to count full moons until the next flooding – thus 12 moons – 12 months.

Ancient Romans used sun dials to tell the time of day. The shadow created by the dial on the prearranged numbers was helpful on sunny days.

Medieval water clocks were used in China. The clocks-controlled life from arising to bedtime each day by the sounding of bells or drums. Water clocks were replaced by hour glasses sometime in Ancient Greece and used up until the time when mechanical geared clocks were developed in the thirteenth century.

Clocks have controlled the financial world since 1611 in Amsterdam. Stock trading was controlled by specific hours when trading took place. This is still true today as we observe on TV the ringing of the bell and the banging of the gavel closing trading for the day on Wallstreet.

The British tightened their control in the 1850's by building towers in towns throughout India. These tall clock towers sounded loud bells at specific times of the day to signal work starts and stops for the day. The Empress of India were the tall towers visual throughout the towns.

A clock played a part in solving the problem of longitude for the navigators of the sailing ships. Latitude was a known thing to sailors, but longitude was not solved until a clock maker took on the challenge. In the 1750's John Harrison, a British clock maker, developed a clock that could withstand the rolling, jolting, and salt air, facing the wooden sailing ships.

At the time, Queen Anne, put out to the scientists a challenge to come up with a solution to the problem encouraged by a 20,000-pound reward. John Harrison solved the problem ahead of the scientists with his marine chronometer.

Longitude is calculated with 0 degree starting point in Greenwich, England. Every 15 degrees to the west is one hour of time.

During the Apollo era an accurate clock was needed, but only available in an atomic clock. These were bulky, fragile, and power hungry. Solving this problem was accomplished by two German scientists working in their basements. These atomic powered clocks became the forerunners of the present-day GPS.

Do you what to be better informed about time? That can be done by reading "About Time."

Giving Thanks & Telling Stories

By Rev. Keith Pearson, ELCA Foundation

St. Paul wrote in the opening verses of his first letter to the church in Corinth (1 Cor. 1:4,5) "I give thanks to my God always for you because of the grace of God that has been given you in Christ Jesus, for in every way you have been enriched in him, in speech and knowledge of every kind." And so, I also give thanks to you for welcoming me into your congregation a few weeks ago, allowing me to bring you the good news of Christ Jesus in your time and place. I thank you for joining with me after worship to hear about my work in the church and in the world.

In this season of Thanksgiving and gathering with loved ones we make it a practice to give thanks and to remember the blessings in our lives. And not only do we literally speak words of thanksgiving, we inherently turn to telling stories in the process. We tell stories of our struggles and triumphs. We tell stories of our sorrows and our joys. We tell stories that make us laugh, cry, and pause and think. Like the parables of Jesus, these stories help us embody and remember why we give thanks.

We also tend to think of loved ones who have passed on and who now rest in the everlasting peace of the full presence of Jesus. We remember their stories and how they impacted our lives. And while we may still grieve the loss of no longer having them in our daily lives, we also give thanks for the promise of the resurrection. We look forward to that day when we will once again see them face to face.

Giving thanks and telling stories just go hand in hand. And the best stories are those rooted deeply in giving thanks. Those stories give us peace and comfort that has a lasting quality that other stories simply lack.

So, when the time comes and you no longer have a seat at the family table because you now are part of Christ Jesus' eternal banquet, what story would you like to be told? Your surviving loved ones whose journey on earth is not yet complete, what stories will they remember and tell about you?

We call these stories your legacy: what is left, what remains, what sticks and stays with people long after you are gone. What will that be? Will you leave it to chance, or will you help give the story shape, form, and voice?

Part of how you can do that is through your final plans. Think of your "Last Will and Testament." While you still live and breathe you can tell your own story. You can remember and tell the story of what was most important to you in your life. You can guide your loved ones through your story and help them find a path of hope, love, and peace. You can show them, through your final actions, what you believe to be most important.

If you'd like help telling your story through your own personal final plans I would love to help. I would love to hear your story and help you give thanks.

November 2021

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	1	2 9:00 Bible Study 10:00 Women of Faith 11:00 Worship Plan mtg. 1:30 Staff meeting 3:00 Supervisory mtg. 6:00 Cub Scouts 6:30 Joyous Ringers	3 5:30 Pizza Supper 6:00 S³ 7-9 Grade 6:00 Sr. High Youth	4	5	6
7 8:30 S. School/Grapple 9:30 Worship with Holy Communion *Also via Face Book Live & YouTube* 10:30 Refreshments *Daylight Savings Ends*	8	9 9:00 Bible Study 10:30 Worship Plan mtg. 1:30 Staff meeting 3:00 Supervisory mtg. 6:30 Joyous Ringers	10 5:30 Pizza Supper 6:00 S³ 7-9 Grade	11 9:00—4:00 Bring baked good 5:00 Council	12 9:00—Noon Bring baked goods	13 9:00 Band practice 9:00—2pm Craft & Bake Sale
14 8:30 S. School/Grapple 9:30 Worship with New Life Band and Baptism *Also via Face Book Live & YouTube* 10:30 Refreshments	15	16 9:00 Bible Study 10:30 Worship Plan mtg. 1:30 Staff meeting 3:00 Supervisory mtg. 6:30 Joyous Ringers	17 5:30 Pizza Supper 6:00 S³ 7-9 Grade 6:00 Sr. High Youth	18	19 ← Jr. High Youth Gathering—Willmar →	20 ←
21 *Milestone Sunday* 8:30 S. School/Grapple 9:30 Worship with Kdg. Milestone *Also via Face Book Live & YouTube* 10:30 Refreshments 2:00 Recording of Thanksgiving Service →	22	23 9:00 Bible Study 10:30 Worship Plan mtg. 1:30 Staff meeting 3:00 Supervisory mtg. 6:00 Cub Scouts 6:30 Joyous Ringers	24 —No Classes—	25 *Thanksgiving Day*	26	27
28 *The Reel Hope Project* 8:30 S. School/Grapple 9:30 Worship *Also via Face Book Live & YouTube* 10:30 Refreshments	29	30 9:00 Bible Study 10:30 Worship Plan mtg. 1:30 Staff meeting 3:00 Supervisory mtg. 6:30 Joyous Ringers				

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Prepared especially for…

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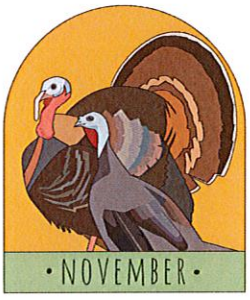

Worship Schedule via FaceBook Live at www.facebook.com/faithlutheranstrong

National Adoption Month

November 7	9:30am	Worship with Holy Communion
November 14	9:30am	Worship with Holy Baptism
November 21	9:30am	Worship *(Jesus our Savior, our Friend Milestone)*
November 28	9:30am	Worship *(Service with The Reel Hope Project)*

In person worship remains an option!

You are welcome to join us at FLC or continue to worship with services broadcast via Facebook Live and YouTube