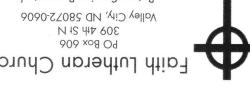
Permit No. 13 Valley City, ND **DIA9** epstsoq .2.U Non-Profit Org.



Return Service Requested aith Lutheran Church

Church Staff

stinom silub. :tastiseA svitstinimbA

Interim Pastor: Pastor Jamie Desar

Treasurer: Jessica Jenrich

somiw ibnow: School: Vendar Vendar Coordinator of Youth Ministry and

Accompanies Worship Coordinator: Cyndi Hill

Custodians: Mark & Sandy Brandvold

 $4sO \ \delta u u N$ Erin Metcalf, Amy Pederson, Rick Bredeson, Justin Foell, *Council:* Matt Brandvold, 6621-028(102) :auoya Council President: Michael May

The office will be closed Monday, May 27 in observance of Memorial

Day.

Pages 2

Page 3

Page 4

Page 5

Page 6

Page 7

Page 8

Page 9

Page 10

Kids Club

Page 11

Page 12

Staff Info

Inserts

VBS

IN THIS ISSUE:

A Word from the Pastor

Message from Council

Dan & Bea Faust Update

Red Willow Bible Camp

Summer Grocery Store

Backpack Program

Mission Team News

& Anniversaries

May Service & Care **April Transitions**

Pancake Brunch

April Memorials

Team Meetings

Sunday School

Confirmation Info

Impact Night

Calendar/April Fun

Pizza Ranch Community

Memory Café

WELCA News

Noisy Offering

May Birthdays

President

Faith Lutheran Church ELCA . 309 Fourth Street Northeast . Valley City . North Dakota . 58072 Volume XXVI Issue V Monthly **May 2024**

FAITH ON THE RISE

"Rejoice! The Lord is near." Philippians 4:5

moo.lismg@blovbnsvd.ybnss :lisM-2 s'ybns2

Pastor's E-Mail: pastor@faithlutheranvc.org

E-Mail Address: office@faithlutheranvc.org

Jessica's L-Mail: treasurer@faithlutheranvc.org

Website: www.iaithlutheranvc.org

7888-848 (107)

0654-348 (107)

Wendis E-Mail: wendi.wilmes@gmail.com

Cyndi's E-Mail: cyndi.r.hill@gmail.com

:ләqшn_N хр_Д

:әэлЩО үэлпүЭ



Pictured: (back row, l-r) Della Heide, Odin Greenley, Skylar Thornton, Pastor Jamie; (front row, 1-r) Drake Carlson, Emery Wiebe, Owen Johnson.

This is freewill offering.

We Welcome You to Join Us for Worship!

Sunday, May 5—We will recognize our Sunday School Teachers during worship for their dedication and commitment to our young people. The Sunday School children will be singing in church. Sunday, May 12—Happy Mother's Day! Sunday, May 19-We will bless our Graduating High School Seniors and they will each receive a quilt from our quilters and our congregation. We will be welcoming **new members** to our Faith family.

First Communion Received Maundy Thursday

We welcomed 6 children to the communion table to receive their First Communion during Maundy Thursday service on May 30th. God bless these youth as they have made this milestone and grow in their faith in Christ Jesus.

Men's Group Pancake Brunch! They will be serving 9:30am-12:30pm.

Pentecost Sunday-Wear Red!

May 26—High School Graduation Day!



This is My Commandment, that you love one another as I have loved you. If you obey My commands, you will remain in My love, just as I have obeyed My Father's commands and remain in His love. I have told you this so that *My joy may be in you and that your joy may be complete.* John 15:9, 11

Jesus summarized the commandments into one, love one another as I have loved you. Loving our neighbors can be our greatest joy, and the hardest thing we can do. What is it that makes it so difficult to love others? I watch young children love each other so innocently and completely wondering why can't we all love like that?

This is the season when people emerge from the cold winter and begin standing on the street corners of Fargo begging for handouts. As I pull up to the stop light a man stands just outside my window, seemingly looking directly into my soul asking me to share some of my generosity with him. When I don't, I feel guilty not helping him. Maybe if he was the only person out there asking for help, I would be willing to share something, but it seems like it is every other light that I encounter someone asking for some help. How do I love my neighbor as myself when there are so many asking?

There are a few things I have learned over the years when working with those who live in poverty. Here are three:

1) Respect. When a person has been reduced to having to beg to make ends meet, they have lost their pride. We objectify them and label them as *The Other*. We reduce them to people who cannot earn their keep and therefore we feel contempt for them. What if we took Jesus' command to *love my neighbor* by showing this person some respect. You don't necessarily need to give him or her a handout, but ask yourself, how could I show this person some respect? And show some compassion by doing so?

2) Speak. Talk with them, they won't bite. Even if you only have a minute at a light, ask them about themselves. Do they have a family? What are some of the things you would ask a friend? What they need right now, besides a handout, is someone to recognize them as human being, not an object. You would be surprised by the response you will get by genuinely being interested in them.

3) *Invite*. This is the hardest one. Ask them if they would like to eat with you and take them to the closest fast-food place. Buy them a burger and shake and eat with them. Treat them like you would a friend. This is what we tell high school youth when we go to the ELCA national youth gathers, when approached by a homeless person. Grab a chaperone, head to the nearest McDonald's and get them something to eat. And if you are able, eat with him/her and simply listen to their story. Jesus made it a habit to eat with 'Sinners', (that's what they called outsiders in His day). There are many ways we help people who are living in poverty through non-profits, churches, and organizations, but it is quite another step to recognize people as accepted, forgiven and loved children of God.

Respect, Speak, Invite, three things you can challenge yourself to do next time you encounter a person requesting a handout. Jesus did not give us suggestions to love one another as I have loved you, He gave us a command. I'm asking you to give it a try. Jesus promises us in John 15:11 when He said, I have told you this so that My joy may be in you and that your joy may be complete. Joy! We might find Joy in helping others? Who knew? What a concept.

I pray that you might find some Christ-like joy in the month of May, that His joy would be in you and that it may be made complete!

Pastor Jamie



Confirmation Information for 7th-9th Graders Our final confirmation class will be held on May 1st. 6:30-8pm at Trinity Lutheran.

We'll have pizza and play some games to close out the year! May 1st at 7:30pm—9th grade students and their families will meet to discuss summer expectations as they prepare for their Affirmation of Faith on October 27, 2024.

A new acolyte schedule for the summer was emailed out to confirmation households as well as printed off. Please let the office know if you need the schedule. Please remember that we would like acolytes throughout the summer for worship services.

ELCA National Youth Gathering Fundraiser Pizza Ranch Community Impact Night

Mark your calendars!



Tuesday, May 14th the **COMMUNITY** youth attending the National Youth Gathering will be holding a Community Impact Fundraising Event at Pizza Ranch! Come enjoy the supper buffet this event from 5-7:30pm and a portion of

the earnings will go towards the trip! The youth will be there as well to clear your tables and get you anything you need!

Hope to see you on Tuesday, May 14th!

Thank You from the Youth attending the Youth Gathering in New Orleans

Thank you to all who purchased Butterbraids from the Youth! Your support of the fundraisers for those attending the Youth Gathering throughout the last few months has be amazing and is appreciated by the youth and their parents!





We will be doing a fun event in June. Please watch your Remind app and emails for more information soon. Enjoy the end of the school year and the start of summer break!





MercyMe Concert

Lauren May and Alyssa Wilmes had a great time at the MercyMe Concert on April 11th! Wendi Wilmes and Patty Gronlie enjoyed it as well!



Jr/Sr High Youth Group

Sunday School!

After church, you can grab a treat with your family and then we start Sunday School at 10:45am and finish at 11:45am. Each week is a blast together with Jesus.

*Sunday, May 5—will be the last day of Sunday School for the 2023-2024 school year! Kids will also be singing in church this Sunday!

*Sunday, May 5—we will also be honoring our Sunday School teachers! Thank you to Brenda Rohde, Jessica Johnson, Amanda Pilgrim, Angela Van Bruggen, Ashley Horner, Abby Wilmes, Alyssa Wilmes, and Kylie Van Bruggen for teaching our kids this school year.



shutterstock com · 215996866

Kids Club

We welcome all kids going into 4th-6th grade to come to our Wednesday Afterschool program! Kids Club meets Wednesdays from 3:15-5pm here at Faith or we go do a service project around the community. The kids are picked up by Wendi with the church van from Washington School and parents then pick them up from Faith.

Schedule for May

Wednesday, May 1—Kids Club at Faith Wednesday, May 8—Last Day of Kids Club for 2023-2024 school year! (extra fun day)



Kids Club Helping Pack the Health Care Kits for Lutheran World Relief



Vacation Bible School

Once again, we will be partnering with Our Savior's and Trinity to offer VBS for kids going into Kindergarteners-6th graders on **June 4th-6th from 12:30-5pm**. VBS is free to attend!

Deadline to sign up is May 1st! If you forgot to register please do it as soon as possible! Here is the JotForm link to sign up: https://form.jotform.com/240864442295057 The form can also be found on our website: www.faithlutheranvc.org.

If you are interested in volunteering to help with VBS please let Wendi know!

Message from Our Council President

Dear Faith Family,

I would like to start off by saying thank you to everyone that took time out of their busy schedules to help clean the church. I know everyone's time is valuable, so I appreciate everyone that took the time to help.

The council met on April 10th for our monthly meeting. There were several items discussed but one item I would like to mention to everyone is the property committee submitted a proposal to remove all the trees around the physical church building. There are no visible foundation issues currently but with the size of the trees around the church we want to take preventative measures to ensure the trees don't cause damage to our church building. There were several concerns about taking out donated trees and making sure the memory rocks are moved to appropriate locations. The council is having the property committee investigate transplanting the trees, and if that's not possible the council will talk with the cemetery committee about possible planting of new trees at the cemetery. Please feel free to reach out to the council if you have any questions.

Mike May, Council President



What a great group that helped with the cleaning! We had help from all ages!

April 23, 2024

Dear Friends of Dan and Bea Faust,

I have been trying to get a hold of friends of Dan and Bea to give everyone an update on them. They are still at The Glenn of Minnetonka. However, Dad has been in a steep decline since the beginning of March. He was hospitalized for several days in early March when we learned of more health challenges, some associated with his diabetes, others not. A couple very invasive procedures were discussed but these were not recommended by medical staff as they would be painful, confusing, and not likely to provide a positive outcome. It became clear that Dad's earthly body is shutting down. All of Dan's kids met several times to consider all the options. We made the painful decision on March 21st to start



hospice. Th hospice staff has been providing wonderful care and guiding us through this difficult time.

Dad is not able to communicate a lot at this point, mostly very short sentences, or just yes/no or nonverbals. He is sleeping a lot and has started comfort meds for the pain associated with the wounds on his feet that are not getting better. Especially when they do wound care on them three times a week is when he needs those more intense meds. Otherwise, it seem he is not in pain most of the time. He still responds with smiles to stories that he remembers.

I do not have a quick, convenient way to communicate with many of their friends so we started a Caring Bridge site for everyone to check for updates on how things are going. If you just go to caringbridge.org and search for Daniel Faust, you should be able to find his page. We will try to keep regular updates on there as to how he is doing.

Bea has been more stable but with her own gradual decline. She is mostly in her wheelchair but able to use her walker still on a limited basis. Mom is still as sweet as ever.

If you want to reach out to me, my email address is dougmonica@projectshalom.org. My phone number is 952-913-8226. Please share this news with others who know them whom I may have missed.

I hope this finds you well and enjoying the beautiful spring season.

Blessings,

Monica Faust Cox



Red Willow Bible Camp—Scholarships Available!

Red Willow Ministries, located near Binford, ND has officially opened registration for their amazing list of 2024 Bible Camps. You may still sign your kids up for Bible Camp. Please scan the QR code to visit their website, review camp details and RED WILLOW MINISTRIES register your child for a wonderful opportunity to grow in their faith and meet new 📉 friends. This year, Faith Lutheran is offering a limited number of \$150 scholarships for youth attending any 2024 Red Willow camps. Contact Julie in the office for a

special scholarship code. If you have any additional questions about Red Willow registration, contact Erin Metcalf. Thanks!





Group will be serving Pancakes, Fried Potatoes, Sausage, Apple Sauce, Juice & Coffee. To-Go containers will be available. The regular Men's Group Breakfast meeting will be Saturday, May 18th at 8am where the preparations for the Brunch will happen. Any of the Men in Faith Lutheran are invited to come and join this meeting and/or the Pancake Brunch. Your help is needed to with both the prep work and the day of the Pancake Brunch so you are able we would appreciate your willingness to help!



MEMORIAL In memory of Chuck Jacobson given by Jerry & Carol Moritz (General Fund). **GIFTS** In memory of **Mavis Johnson** given by Jerry & Carol Moritz (General Fund). In memory of Howard Langemo given by Al & Nancy Sorensen (Undesignated).

In memory of Jenni Marquart given by Cheryl Foell (Undesignated). In memory of **Jerome Miller** given by Scott & Amy Johnson (Undesignated). In memory of **Vione Olson** given by Dave & Jeanne Johnsen (Undesignated); by Gary & Diane Sommerfeld (Backpack Program).

In memory of **Howard Oppegard** given by Paulette Everson (Undesignated); by Arlys Netland (Undesignated); by Archie Oster (Undesignated); by Norma Rydholm (Undesignated); by Gary & Diane Sommerfeld (Backpack Program); by Tyler & Angela Van Bruggen (Undesignated); by Warren & Brenda Ventsch (Undesignated); by Larry & Deloris Welken (Cemetery Fund). In memory of **Jeanne Speich** given by Dave & Jeanne Johnson (Undesignated); by Gary & Diane Sommerfeld (Backpack Program); by Al & Nancy Sorensen (Undesignated). In memory of **Perry Ronning Jr.** given by Jim & Carol Winter Bjorge (Undesignated). In memory of John Webber given by Jerry & Carol Moritz (General Fund).

MAY TEAM MEETINGS

Council—Meets Wed. May 8 at **5:30pm**



FLC Staff-Meets Wed, May 8 at **1:30pm**

Men's Group-Meets Sat, May 18 at 8am

Men's Group Pancake Brunch—May 19th!

You are invited to enjoy a delicious Brunch and great fellowship! The Men's Group will serving 9:30am-12:30pm. This will be a freewill fundraiser. The Men's

The Men's Group is a very low key group but like to have Fun and share good Fellowship. 'Food, Fun, Fellowship!'

April Memorials



Mission Team—Meets Tue, May 7 at 5:30pm

June Service & Care—Meets Sun, May 19 after worship & by emails texts/ phone

WELCA—Meets Wed, May 8 at 3:30pm



MAY BIRTHDAYS: 1. Karen Nitschke, Harper Van Bruggen; 2. Mark Brandvold, Mark Hill, Kelly Schulz; 3. Erin Metcalf, Wade Sorensen; 4. Sam Carlson, Darlene Friestad, Wrevyn Friestad, Nick LeMier; 5. Ryan Johnson, Virgil Kratz; 6. Wyatt

Friestad, Keith Hovland, Parker Larson, Cheryl Storhoff; 7. Brenton Rittenhouse; 8. Gene Bjerke, Mark Thomsen; 9. Verlynn Christianson, Joe Lunde; 10. Michael Pedersen; 11. Tricia Mikkelsen; 12. Randy Bostrom, Jacob Johnson, Connie Ronholm; 14. Jan Arneson, Jesse Johnson; 15. Morgen Sayler; 16. Mary Ann Anderson, Thomas Houdek; 17. Nikki Brockopp, Rick Idland; 18. Verna Anderson; 19. Sheila Kinney; **20.** Alexis Horner, Arlene Larson, Mercidez Lunn; 21. Tom Kellogg, Kassidy Schulz; 22. Riley Miller, Braeden Schulz; 23. Leona McPherson, Nancy Ost; 24. Doreen Vangerud, Laurette Zachrison; 26. Lexi Thoreson; 27. Jeremy Smith, Wayne Thoreson; 28. Deb Horner, Ethan Miller; 31. Devin Anderson. Austen Dahl, Debbie Eggert, Owen Houdek, Janie Larson.

MAY ANNIVERSARIES:

3. Mark & Sandy Brandvold; 20. Jeff & Jennifer Bergner; 24. Dave & Carol Smith; 27. Jarin & Gina Thornton; 28. Ryan & Michelle Trzpuc; 31. Rydell & Suzy Becker.

April Transitions

BAPTISMS: We celebrated God's promise in Holy Baptism for Camden Dennis Schuster, born October 8, 2023 and baptized on Sunday, April 14, 2024. His parents are Aaron & Katie Schuster.

We celebrated God's promise in Holy Baptism for Iva Jolene Smith, born April 1, 2024 and baptized Sunday, April 28, 2024. Her parents are Austin & Svdni Smith.

God bless these children and their families.

DEATHS: Our sympathies to the family & friends of Jenni Marquart. Jenni died Sunday, April 21, 2024. Her Celebration of Life was held April 27, 2024 here at Faith with Pastor Jamie officiating.

May Service & Care

**Mike & Julie May **Doug & Leona McPherson Randy & Kay Bostrom Brent & Lynn Gustafson Deb Horner Nick & Ashley Horner Lance & Elaine Jenison Doug & Becky Kratz Virgil & Tami Kratz Bonnie Schumacher Jeremy & Kara Wiebe *Thank you for serving!

April Attendance

April 7	92	96+ online views
April 14	105	134+ online views
April 21	98	89+online views
April 28	113	72+ online views

*online views are households watching

Offering

January	\$16,113.00
February	\$22,023.00
March	\$24,553.00
April	\$14,355.00

Needed monthly to meet Mission Plan: \$22,752.25



Please let the office know if you have moved or have new phone numbers. We try to keep our system up to date as much as we can. Also if a birthday or anniversary is wrong please let Julie know so she can correct that.

Summer Grocery Store

The Bridges Backpack Program again plans to run the Summer Grocery Store at the high school on Wednesday nights June 5-August 7 from 5pm-7pm.

This is free to everyone to help with the added food need during summer months when children are not in school and school lunch is not available. This grocery store is available for all ages.

The Program does get some food from the Great Plains Food Bank and purchases are made with financial donations and grant funds. Local churches and organizations also donate items. We will have a box at Faith Lutheran for donations that we will bring to the store.

Suggested items to donate:

Canned Items: *Meat-chicken, tuna, etc. *Soup *Vegetables * Fruit *Ravioli, Spaghetti O's, etc. *Beans-pinto, kidney, baked, etc. Other Items: *Cereal *Pasta *Spaghetti Sauce *Alfredo Sauce *Peanut Butter *Jelly *Macaroni & Cheese *Ramen Noodles Food Donations *Hamburger Helper *Beverages *Potato Chips *Granola Bars *Pancake Mix *Syrup *Oatmeal *Desserts *Cake Mixes/Baking Materials *Rice *If any Fridge/Freezer Items, Fresh Fruits/Veggies, please call the church office to coordinate drop off.

Keep watching weekly bulletins for updated information. Again thank you for your support.

Bridges Backpack Program

A reminder that there has been a change to the Bridges Backpack program. The Bridges Backpack Program is now a Charitable non-profit organization 501c3 status and have our own financial account.

Rather than making checks/donations to Faith Lutheran Foundation, all donations can be made to Bridges Backpack Program. You may mail your donation to: Bridges Backpack Program, 674 10th Ave SW, Valley City, ND 58072. Your giving of memorials to the Bridge Backpack Program and your financial donations are greatly appreciated!

The Bridges Backpack Program has been having an impact on childhood hunger in our community since 2014. We thank you for your past and continued support of this program that benefits the children in our area.

Sheyenne Valley Memory Café

If you or a loved one is experiencing memory loss, this is an opportunity to connect and visit with healthcare professionals and individuals, this is for you. The Memory Café will meet Thursday, May 23, 1-3pm at Faith Lutheran Church. Coffee and dessert will be available. A brief program will start at 1:30pm. Each month helpful tools to deal with memory loss are presented. This will be the last Memory Café until this fall. The Memory Café attendance has grown throughout the year.

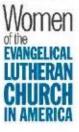






WELCA News

WELCA met April 10, 2024 at 3:30pm at Faith Lutheran Church. 36 Personal Health Care Kits were put together with the help of the Kids Club. These will be sent to Lutheran World Relief in May. Thank you to all who donated items for the care kits.



Several ladies from our church attended the WELCA Spring Roundup on Saturday, April

20th at Riverbend Farms. 172 adies attended from around the area. It was a great program with good food and fun vendors.

A reminder to read the thank yous on the bulletin board above the water fountain. These are from disbursements of monies from the Fall Festival.



Ladies please come join us at our next meeting. It will be Wednesday, May 8, 2024 at 3:30pm in the fellowship hall.

Sincerely, Carol Smith. WELCA President

note be a quilt sale this spring.

"Treasure Sale" at Our Savior's Lutheran Church

Our Savior's "*Treasure Sale*" of Household Décor, Furniture. Children's Toys and Clothing will be Friday, May 3rd—3-6pm and Saturday, May 4-8:30am-Noon.

Coffee, juice and rolls will be served on Saturday Morning at 8:30am. Proceeds will support Youth and Mission Projects. Note: There will



The Valley Troubadours Spring 2024 Concert

Sunday, May 5 The Valley Troubadours will be performing at 7pm at the VCSU Center for the Arts. The facility is handicapped accessible. This is free admission with a freewill offering taken. The Valley Troubadours will also be performing on Thursday, May 9 at 6pm at the Nome Schoolhouse Special Thirsty Thursday Event. This gives you two opportunities to enjoy the musical talents of The Valley Troubadours.

Mission Committee News

Mission Committee met on April 2, writing on birthday cards, and reviewing upcoming projects.

Huge thank you for the overwhelming response to our new mission opportunity to provide Celebration Cake boxes to the food pantry. As I prepare this report, we have about 52 cake mixes so we will be able to complete that many Celebration boxes at our May mission meeting. Just think of the smiles and happiness this will bring to individuals and families in our community!!

CROPWALK: Our committee had a table at the Crop walk at the Jefferson Mile on April 24. Our table included education on growing a garden in a planter on your deck and included handouts and some seed packets for a salad garden, pizza garden, or salsa garden in a planter or small garden area. The walk included fruit and water during the walk with music to make it a fun time for all. Diane Sommerfeld received a Thrivent card to help purchase fruit and water to the walkers. Thank you! Final information on number of walkers and money raised on the Crop Walk will be provided following the walk, so stay tuned.



PER In May we will celebrate Mother's Day and again offer the opportunity to donate diapers and baby wipes. The Pack N Play will be set up next to the Mission Closet to place your donations. These will be shared with Community agencies after collected.

Summer is right around the corner and we do know that the Bridges Backpack Program will again sponsor the Summer Grocery store to help with increased food needs when children are not in school Watch for more details in Sunday Bulletins for schedules and also for food donations if you are able to donate food to help stock the store! An article is on page 6 in this newsletter about the Summer Grocery Store.

Again, we extend an invitation to anyone who would like to join our Mission Committee to come to our meeting the first Tuesday of each month; this month May 7 at 5:30pm.

THANK YOU!! Faith Mission Team

Noisy Offering—Summer Grocery Store Program

We will be receiving a noisy offering on **Sunday**, **May 19**. The offering received will be going to the Summer Grocery Store. This helps families with the increased food needs when the children are not in school for the summer, The kids will come around during the Children's Word with their pails to collect your loose change and dollar bills.

In April we received **\$298.06** for Crop Hunger Walk! Thank you for your generous giving.



Pictured: Kay Bostrom, Deb Shape, Diane Sommerfeld

