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Dates at a Glance

- † **July 1st**
Canada Day
- † **July 4th**
Independence Day
- † **July 16th**
Worship in the Park
- † **August 7th**
Civic Holiday

**Office hours for
Faith Lutheran Church:**
Mon. through Thurs.
9AM—2PM

**Incase of Pastoral
Emergencies Pastor Rita
can be reached at
1(312) 478-6212
Or by email at**



Letter From Pastor Rita

July, 2023

"And the one sitting on the throne said, 'Behold, I make all things new.'" (Rev. 21:5)

Dear Sisters and Brothers in Christ,

We become one in Christ, and we become God's children *"in Christ."* Our lives are always renewed *"in Christ."* Throughout our lives as individuals and as a community, we are always being transformed from our brokenness into wholeness as a result of the forgiveness we have *"in Christ."* The light of hope that exists *"in Christ"* penetrates through the chaos that has brought us to where we are today and brings us out of the current darkness. As Christians, we see *"in Christ"* that death is limited and cannot swallow us whole. It is *"in Christ"* that we have a secure and hopeful future.

In my last letter, I mentioned that we would be hosting an ecumenical church picnic at Sherman Park on July 16th. We will meet friends from other churches and worship together as one *"in Christ."* I am planning to have six weeks of bible study beginning July 23rd through August 27th at 9:45 AM to 10:15 PM on Sundays before worship service. I hope many of you will be able to attend.

I pray everyone stays cool during these hot, humid summer months and enjoys the beautiful weather outside!!

**Yours in Christ,
Pastor Rita**

Join us Sundays at 10:30am*
You can watch live on Facebook

**We begin with organ music at 10:20am*
<https://www.facebook.com/FaithLC1966>

THE PATHFINDER is the monthly newsletter of the

Evangelical Lutheran Church in America community at :

**Faith Lutheran Church, 1600 Park Street,
Sault Ste. Marie, Michigan. (906) 632-7246**

The deadline for the Pathfinder is
the 15th of each month.

Please send articles, comments, news items
c/o Pathfinder Editor, 1600 Park St. Sault Ste. Marie, MI 49783
or e-mail to faithlutheranchurchssm@gmail.com

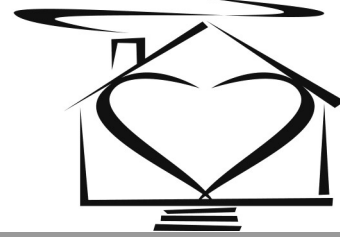
Pastor: Rev. **Rita Chirala**

Church Office:

Rebecca Booth (4 hrs/week only)

Congregational Council: Cathy Tibbett, Wayne Olsen,
Ken Randall, Ben Deatrck, Al Picotte, Marysue Mastey,
and Sandy Lawson.

Homebound MINISTRY



Our homebound and nursing home members are often so isolated that your phone call, visit, even a card can mean the difference between lonely existence and continued life in our faith community. What can you do? Please reach out to those who have been such a vital part of our congregation and give back.

Faith Lutheran Church
is a member congregation of the
Northern Great Lakes Synod of the
Evangelical Lutheran Church in America.

Synod website: nglsynod.org
Denomination website: elca.org

Online giving is here!

You can now make an electronic contribution
on our website. Just go to our website:

www.faithlutheransaultstemarie.org

Scroll down to just above our videos. There,
you will find a green button that says

“Online Giving”.

Click that and enter in your information, and
Faith will receive your contribution within 48
hours. The online giving company we went with
(Tithe.ly) is one of the largest and most secure
companies who specialize in online church giv-
ing, so your information is safe and secure. If
you would like any help going over this process,
please call the church office and we would be
happy to help you.

Beverly Tankersley– Medilodge– Rm A10
1011 Meridian St. SSM, MI 49783

Linda Doran- 590 Three 1/2 Mile Rd.
SSM, MI 49783 (906) 630-1942

Mary Oja - McKinley Manor, 110-E 2023 W 4th,
SSM, MI 49783 (906) 632-7496

Louise Rogers- 332 Arlington Ct. #102
SSM, MI 49783 (906) 253-1580



July BIRTHDAYS

2nd Diane McDonald
 4th Lauren Suppa
 5th Louie Kinnear IV
 8th Taylor Mills
 13th Ronald Kagarise
 15th Jeffrey Oja
 18th Laura Marken
 19th Pamela Markstrom
 20th Bert Kinnear III
 22nd Daniel Kinnear
 23rd William (Liam) Karr
 24th Lorna Bricco
 26th Linda Guisbert
 26th Gordon Lake
 26th John Roesse
 29th Landon Reighard
 29th Patricia Keller
 29th Marianne Kinnear
 30th Jennifer Fields
 30th Corey Strickland



August BIRTHDAYS

1st Ella Trinkle
 5th Luke Sanner
 6th Paul Raappana
 8th Bobbie Levine
 9th Elliana Kagarise
 10th Beverly Ludwig
 10th Gloria McKinney
 15th Rachael Kinnear
 17th Patricia Olsen
 18th Joel Lake
 19th Alan Hewitt
 20th Kristin Flickinger
 21st Ruth Ronquist
 22nd Anna Lawson
 24th Daniel Mills
 25th Tristan Karr
 26th Andrew Markstrom
 27th Wayne Olsen
 28th Alexis Osumili



JULY anniversaries

David & Linda Guisbert

56 years 7/8/67

Diane & John McDonald

53 years 7/25/70

Pat & Don

Hakala

25 years 7/10/98



august anniversaries

Bobbie & Barry Levine

56 years 8/27/67

John & Cynthia Suppa

51 years 8/12/72

Marianne & Ken Kinnear

32 years 8/31/91

Keith & Lynne Nortch

22 years 8/11/01

William Karr &

Laura Marken

18 years 8/27/05

Youth Pop Can Collection!

We are still collecting pop cans to help support our youth ministry here at Faith. We ask if you bring in pop cans/bottles that they are rinsed and have the lids removed. Thank you very much!

WELCA

**will meet on Wednesday,
July 5th at 10:30am for
bible study, meeting,
and meal.**



Letter from the Bishop

“Abide in me as I abide in you. Just as the branch cannot bear fruit by itself unless it abides in the vine, neither can you unless you abide in me.”

~John 15:4

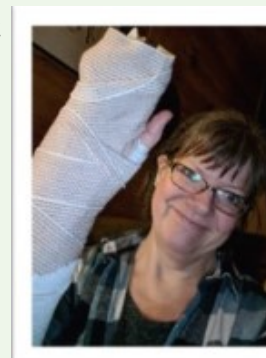


Dear Northern Great Lakes Synod,

In early December of 2017, I was out in our front yard wrapping Christmas lights around a limb of a tree. The limb was about 10 feet off the ground, and I was standing on a ladder, perhaps the third step down, in order to stretch the lights over and under the branch that extended horizontally. Finished with that particular section, I took one step down, but instead of the ladder remaining firmly stationary, it moved toward me. If I did nothing, I would fall to the ground from a painful height on my back. So I grabbed the limb of the tree and pulled toward it, thinking that this would stabilize the ladder and bring us both back upright.

No such luck. Instead of righting itself, the ladder fell away beneath me leaving me to cling briefly to the limb before falling to the ground. In my mind, in that slow motion moment, I felt like I could actually choose where I fell, like a kind of gymnastic dismount from the parallel bars. But in reality, I dropped like a bag of potatoes. And somewhere in the confusion of lights, ladder, and branch, the two fingers of my right hand were caught and pulled out, down, and around with a distinctive crunching sound that made me think of someone snacking on a mouthful of potato chips.

I had broken the bone in my hand that was connected to the ring finger and disrupted the surrounding bones and soft tissue. After several weeks in a splint and then cast, I was given my hand back, only to realize that in that brief time, my brain had decided that my hand no longer belonged to my body. It was still attached of course, but not in a way that gave it life and function. The physical therapist called it Chronic Reactive Pain Disorder. In short, my hand could no longer work as a hand should. I could not write or type, play piano or grab hold of things. It was a swollen useless thing. My brain, and my hand, needed to be retrained and reconnected to meaningful communication with the body, so that the brain would tell the body to send healing and reconnect the signals to the muscles of my hand.



So, what about meaningful connection in the body...the BODY...of Christ? What needs to be retrained? What needs to be reawakened for life and increased function as we are Church together?

My hand was brought back to life as I watched the 2018 Winter Olympics. While watching gymnasts who actually knew how to land a dismount, I put my hand in hot water for two minutes and then in ice water for 30 seconds – back and forth, night after night. Then exercises, and physical therapy, and more tricks on the brain to get my hand to function in a way that was useful to the body.

Jesus, thankfully, does not suggest that we all dunk ourselves in tubs of hot and cold water to be reconnected as a body. Rather, Jesus talks about connectedness as abiding in him in order to bear fruit. And the way that we abide is by being in relationship with him. And that relationship is conveyed to us in at least two ways: through study of scripture and through relationship with each other as the body of Christ. Again...BODY.

(Continued on next page...)

(...Continued)

When the Synod Council met in retreat June 9 -10, we agreed to initiate an effort for us to abide, as a whole Synod, as 79 congregations spanning hundreds of miles and in a variety of communities and contexts, by dwelling on the same passages of scripture over a 12-month period.

We will abide with Jesus by dwelling in the Word. Each congregation will receive 12 different passages of scripture, one for each month. And at each council meeting and quilter group, at each Sunday School and youth group meeting, at each and every gathering that month, people from across the synod will dwell with the same text. No preparation is needed. No theological degree is required. Very simply:

1. Invite one person to read the text aloud.
2. Consider silently the following:
 - a. What do you notice?
 - b. What questions do you have?
 - c. Where might the Holy Spirit be leading us?
3. Then have another person read the text aloud again.
4. Share your thoughts about the questions with each other.
5. Close with prayer.

That's it.

We shall abide. And in abiding, in dwelling with the presence of Christ in the word, and considering the work of the Spirit with each other, we will connect with the one who makes us one, who gathers us as a BODY to embody the love of Christ in the world and for the world.

In addition, all are invited to join the Synod Council as we dwell in the word, via Zoom, the first Thursday of the month, starting Thursday September 7 at 7:30 pm ET / 6:30 pm CT. The Zoom link will be available on our website and in E-Notes and you can add it to your online calendars.

The impact of being disconnected, of having the body forget who it is connected to and why, cannot be overestimated. We need each other to be the body of Christ, and we need the Holy Spirit of Christ to clarify our mission and purpose as that Body. By dwelling in the word together, we shall abide...in Christ, in the Word, in the presence of Christ in each other.

Yours in Christ,
Bishop Katherine Finegan

Faith Lutheran Church

Council Meeting

Date May 16, 2023

The meeting was called to order by Secretary Sandy Lawson at 7:05PM

President Cathy Tibbett took over the meeting at 7:30PM.

Members Present: Pastor Rita Chirala , Wayne Olsen, Sandy Lawson, Ken Randall, Ben Deatricks

Members Absent: Marysue Mastey excused.

Guest: Al Picotte.

Devotions: Ben Deatricks June Devotions Wayne Olsen

Minutes: Wayne made a motion to accept the minutes of April 18, 2023. Ben seconded. Motion passed.

Council Meeting: June 20, 2023.

Old Business: Synod Assembly was May 18-20, 2023 at NMU, Marquett, Mi. Pastor and 2 Delegates attended plus 5 members from Faith.

New Business:

A. Sandy made a motion to welcome Al Picotte as a new Council member. Ben seconded.

Motion passed. Welcome Al.

B. Pastor Rita is requesting four days of vacation (June 14-18). Wayne made a motion to approve the request. Ben seconded. Motion passed.

C. This year \$486.62 was given for Quarters for Hunger. Thank you to those who generously participated.

D. A discussion was held on cleaning up after coffee hour. Cathy will contact Cathy Flickinger.

Pastors Report: Pastor Rita gave her Pastors report.

Committee Reports:

Campus Ministry: A successful year. Five students participated during the school year and ended the year with a barbeque. There will not be a summer program. Campus Ministry will participate in Laker Palazzo this coming August. Suggestions on what to do for the students were given. No action taken.

Come to the Table: No report.

Endowment: \$ 2600.00 still needs to be distributed.

Fellowship: A cake and ice cream reception was held for the 2023 high school graduates.

The graduates were recognized during worship and also were presented with a quilt from the Monday Quilters.

Financial Report: Wayne presented income and expenditures. Wayne thanks everyone for keeping their contribution up to date.

Membership: Dave Erourth will be accepted as a Associate Member on May 28, 2023.

Memorial: A check in the amount of \$2000.00 was given to Faith to help with benevolence,

Outreach: Washington School and the Sault Board of Education sent thank you letters for the donations to the Kids Closet. The summer ecumenical picnic will be July 16, 2023.

Property: The boiler passed inspection. Next inspection is 2026. The floor in the Fellowship Hall needs one more application of wax.

Staff Support: No Report.

Stewardship: No Report.

WELCA: Fall Bazaar will be October 14, 2023.

Worship and Music: Next meeting June 6, 2023.

A motion was made by Ben to accept the committee reports including the Pastor Report.

Ken seconded. Motion carried.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:48PM with the Lords Prayer.

Respectfully submitted,

Sandy Lawson, Council Secretary



We plan to have 6 weeks of bible study beginning on July 23rd through August 27th at 9:45-10:15am on Sundays before worship service.

*Hospice of the EUP
Volunteer Training*

**VOLUNTEERS
NEEDED**

*Join in on the training
July 18th
or July 25th
at 1pm*

*For more details call
(906)259-0222*

Worship in the park!

Sunday, July 16th will be an Ecumenical Worship at Sherman Park starting at 10:30am. Bring a dish to pass and a lawn chair to sit in. PLEASE SIGN UP ON THE SHEET IN THE LOBBY so we have an idea of how many will attend.

Financial Report

Faith Lutheran Church
Income & Expenses
Thru May 31, 2023

	May-23	May-23 Year-to-Date Actual	May-23 Year-to-Date Budget	Net Activity Over (Under) Budget
General Fund Revenue	\$ 8,372.31	\$ 57,242.92	\$ 55,909.00	\$ 1,333.92
Expenses	\$ 11,935.58	\$ 64,940.59	\$ 74,720.00	\$ (9,779.41)
Operating Revenue				
Over (Under) Expenses	\$ (3,563.27)	\$ (7,697.67)	\$ (18,811.00)	\$ 11,113.33
Total Other Non Operating Revenue	\$ (2,602.57)	\$ (3,276.29)	\$ -	\$ (3,276.29)
Other Non Operating Expenditures	\$ -	\$ (2,053.01)	\$ -	\$ (2,053.01)
Balance with Non operating	\$ (6,165.84)	\$ (8,920.95)	\$ (18,811.00)	\$ 9,890.05

Note: Our Expenses are approximately \$4,100 to \$7,500 more than our Revenue each month. We have taken steps to reduce our expected Expenses but currently it appears our Revenues will be \$20,000 to \$25,000 less than our Expenses at December 31, 2023.

Healing Service

We will resume our healing service first Sunday of every month followed by worship service.

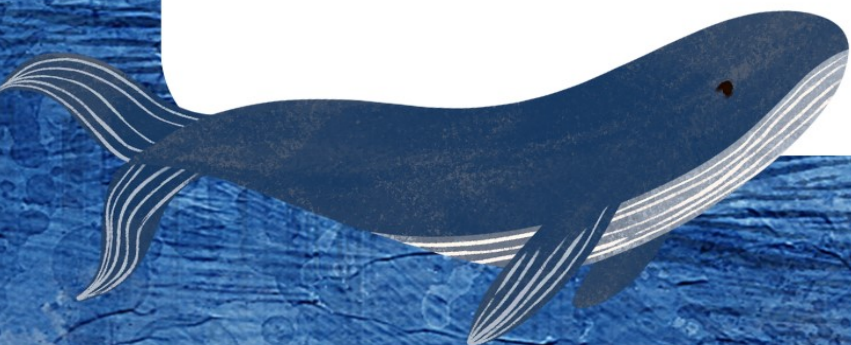
July

<u>Sunday</u>	<u>Monday</u>	<u>Tuesday</u>	<u>Wednesday</u>	<u>Thursday</u>	<u>Friday</u>	<u>Saturday</u>
						1
2 6th Sunday after Pentecost Worship 10:30AM	3 Psalm 145 8-14 Quilting 1PM	 4 Romans 7:15-25 Yoga 9:30AM	5 Matthew 11:16-19 WELCA 10:30AM	6 Genesis 24:34-38 Yoga 9:30AM	7 Psalm 45:10-7	8 Song of Solomon 2:8-13
9 7th Sunday after Pentecost Worship 10:30AM	10 Isaiah 55:10-13 Quilting 1PM	11 Psalm 65 1-8 Yoga 9:30AM	12 Romans 8:1-11	13 Matthew 13:1-9 Yoga 9:30AM	14 Genesis 25:19-34	15 Psalm 119:105-112
16 8th Sunday after Pentecost Worship 10:30AM at Sherman Park	17 Isaiah 44:6-8 Quilting 1PM	18 Psalm 86:11-17 Yoga 9:30AM Council Meeting 7PM	19 Romans 8:12-25	20 Matthew 13:24-30 Yoga 9:30AM	21 Genesis 28:10-19	22 Psalm 139
23 9th Sunday after Pentecost Worship 10:30AM	24 1Kings 3:5-12 Quilting 1PM	25 Psalm 119:129-136 Yoga 9:30AM	26 Romans 8:26-39	27 Matthew 13:31-33 Yoga 9:30AM	28 Genesis 29:15-28	29 Psalm 105:1-11
30 10th Sunday after Pentecost Worship 10:30AM	31 Isaiah 55:1-5					

August



<u>Sunday</u>	<u>Monday</u>	<u>Tuesday</u>	<u>Wednesday</u>	<u>Thursday</u>	<u>Friday</u>	<u>Saturday</u>
		1 Psalm 145:8-9 Yoga 9:30AM	2 Romans 9:1-5	3 Matthew 14:13-21 Yoga 9:30AM	4 Genesis 32:22-31	5 Psalm 17:1-7
6 11th Sunday after Pentecost Worship 10:30AM	7 1 Kings 19:9-18 Quilting 1PM	8 Psalm 85:8-13 Yoga 9:30AM	9 Romans 10:5-15	10 Matthew 14:22-33 Yoga 9:30AM	11 Genesis 37:1-4	12 Psalm 105:1-6
13 12th Sunday after Pentecost Worship 10:30AM	14 Isiah 56:6-8 Quilting 1PM	15 Psalm 67 Yoga 9:30AM	16 Romans 11:29-32	17 Matthew 15:10-28 Yoga 9:30AM	18 Genesis 45:1-15	19 Psalm 133
20 13th Sunday after Pentecost Worship 10:30AM	21 Isiah 51:1-6 Quilting 1PM	22 Psalm 138 Yoga 9:30AM	23 Romans 12:1-8	24 Matthew 16:13-20 Yoga 9:30AM	25 Exodus 1:8-10	26 Psalm 124
27 14th Sunday after Pentecost Worship 10:30AM	28 Jeremiah 15:15-21 Quilting 1PM	29 Psalm 26:1-8 Yoga 9:30AM	30 Romans 12:9-21	31 Matthew 16:21-28 Yoga 9:30AM		



PATHFINDER



FAITH LUTHERAN CHURCH*

YEAR A

Phone: 906-632-7246

Email: faithlc1966@att.net

Website: <http://www.faithlutheransaultstemarie.org>

*** A congregation of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America.**

FAITH LUTHERAN CHURCH
1600 PARK STREET
SAULT STE. MARIE, MI 49783

