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## Dates at a Glance

- + Feb. 2, 2024  
Groundhog Day
- + Feb. 11, 2024  
Transfiguration  
of Our Lord
- + Feb. 14, 2024  
Ash Wednesday
- + Feb. 14, 2024  
Valentines day
- + Feb. 25, 2024  
Annual Meeting

**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  
critawilliam@gmail.com**

## Letter From Pastor Rita

February 2024

Dear Sisters and Brothers in Christ,

*<sup>13</sup> And now faith, hope, and love remain, these three, and the greatest of these is love.*

*(1 Corinthians 13: 13)*

The month of February is often considered the month of love because it is the month of Valentine's Day. This month, people celebrate Valentine's Day in many different ways in order to show their love for each other. It is my personal belief that every day is a chance to rejoice and celebrate love in our lives.

For the first time since 1945, Valentine's Day falls on Ash Wednesday, February 14th. In an interesting way, both days symbolize LOVE differently. The best way to celebrate Valentine's Day on Ash Wednesday is by giving thanks for God's incredible love, which has been expressed to us through Jesus Christ. Jesus Christ's love for all people is an example of perfect love.

Jesus is the fulfillment of God's promise of love and salvation, who came to bring us eternal life. The Father gave His only Son for our salvation out of LOVE, the LOVE He has for us.

On Ash Wednesday, we enter the Lenten Season seeking God's forgiveness and love. During this time, we spend more time praying and reflecting on God's self-sacrificial love for us through Jesus Christ. On Wednesday evenings throughout Lenten, we will hold soup suppers followed by Lenten devotions. We hope to see many of you there.

May the Lord renew the love we have for one another and for God!

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>



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## Lifelong Faith Formation 2024

Grow in Faith through Learning and Fellowship

Registration is quick and easy for the interesting variety of classes offered by the Northern Great Lakes Synod. Beginning in January and February, Lifelong Faith Formation courses **will meet online via Zoom** (with an in-person option for "Stewardship of Animals"). Enjoy the Christian conversation and fellowship this winter!

Contact Deacon Lori Ward at 615-519-1969 or [lori.ward@nglsynod.org](mailto:lori.ward@nglsynod.org) if you have any questions.



## Annual Meeting

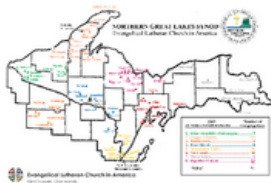
We invite you to attend Faith's annual meeting following the worship service on Sunday, February 25th. Elections will be held at the meeting, and offices will be elected.

Please plan to join us for this important annual event for our church committee.

## Lenten Devotions:

We will be holding 5 weeks of Lenten Devotions starting **February 21st to March 20th** with soup supper at 5pm followed by the devotion 6-6:30PM.

## Conference-Wide Youth Events



All events are free and open to 7<sup>th</sup> – 12<sup>th</sup> graders, youth leaders, and pastors. Pre-registration is encouraged by contacting the event leaders below to help ensure enough supplies. If you would like to lead a youth event in your Conference, please email Stefanie Ehle ([youthcoordinator@nglsynod.org](mailto:youthcoordinator@nglsynod.org))

**Sunday, February 4 –  
Menominee Valley Conference**

**Sunday, February 11 –  
Superior Central Conference**

Faith Lutheran Church Council Meeting

Date November 21, 2023

The meeting was called to order by President Cathy Tibbett at 7:05 PM

Members Present: Pastor Rita Chirala, Cathy Tibbett, Sandy Lawson, Ben Deatricks, Marysue Mastey, Al Picotte

Member Absent: Wayne Olsen, excused.

Council Meeting: January 16, 2024

Devotions: Al Picotte January: Sandy Lawson Pastor Rita said a prayer.

Minutes: Al made a motion to accept the October 17, 2023 Council minutes. Ben Seconded. Motion passed.

Old Business:

A: Marysue to conduct the 2023 Annual Budget meeting.

B. Ken to check area motels that may have people working on the locks.

New Business:

A: Conference 7 Christ Mass Worship service will be at Faith Tuesday February 20, 2024, 11: AM.

B: A building use request for every Thursday during the school year by a 4-H group. Al made a motion to accept. Ben seconded. Motion passed.

C: Council Christmas party date to be rescheduled.

Pastors Report: Pastor Rita gave her Pastors report.

Committee Reports:

Campus Ministry: Ken Randall to contact Sue Ann Bartelsmyer at LSSU.

Come to the Table: No Report

Christian Education: Few students attending Sunday school.

Endowment: No Report.

Fellowship: Thanksgiving Diner well received, Thank you to the Fellowship Committee.

Cookies will be served after the Christmas Eve service.

Finance: Financial report was given.

Memorial: No report.

Membership: Membership list with 98 members is now completed.

Outreach: Washington school was picked to be the recipient for the Christmas project. The needed items are products for treatment of head lice. Other needed items are mayonnaise, detergent pods, sweatpants for the boys and leggings for the girls.

The Greening of the church is December 9, 2023 at 10:00 AM.

Property: The Orkin tech was here on November 7, 2023. Both pianos to be tuned Before the Christmas Eve service.

Staff Support: No Report

Stewardship: The Stewardship campaign was very successful. The Stewardship Committee is to be thanked. Thank you to Dave and Ann Bean for the banners.

WELC: Visited the former Elim Lutheran Church which has been restored into a beautiful B&B.

Worship and Music: No report. Next meeting is November 11, 2023.

Ben made a motion to accept the committee reports including the Pastors Report and the Financial report. Ken seconded. Motion Carried.

Motion to adjourn: Al made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Ben seconded. Motion passed.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:05 PM with the Lords Prayer.

Respectfully submitted,

Sandy Lawson, Council Secretary



# Homebound



**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.**

**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 a 15th of each month.

Please send articles, comment, news items

c/o Pathfinder Editor, 1600 Park St. Sault Ste. Marie, MI 49783

Or e-mail to [faithlutheranchurchssm@gmail.com](mailto:faithlutheranchurchssm@gmail.com)

Pastor: Rev. Rita Chirala

Church Office: Rebecca Booth (4hrs/week only)

Congregational Council: Cathy Tibbett, Wayne Olsen,

Ken Randall, Ben Deatrick,

Al Picotte, and Sandy Lawson.

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

Synod website: [nglsynod.org](http://nglsynod.org)

Denomination website: [elca.org](http://elca.org)

## Online giving is here!

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

[www.faithlutheransaultstemarie.org](http://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 giving, 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

**Bill Markstrom**— 3205 S Sunglow Dr.  
SSM, MI 49783 (906)635-1343

**Aili Allen** – 2017 S Whitehead Rd  
SSM, MI 49783





## BIRTHDAYS

3rd	Dennis Aho
4th	Russell White
5th	Gregory Oja
6th	Rebecca Booth
6th	Bonnie White
8th	Daniel Gervasio
8th	Eunice Kinnear
9th	John McDonald
10th	William Skidmore
11th	Matt Brindley
11th	Julia Gervasio
11th	Jamie Sanderson
13th	Steve Sanderson
19th	Marc Carr
21st	Willard Kocsovsky
21st	Beverly Tankersley
26th	Kiahna Sanderson
28th	Melissa Bricco



## Ken & Joy Lake

62 years                      2/3/62

Patricia & Wayne Olsen

55 years                      2/15/69

Nancy & Paul Brewster

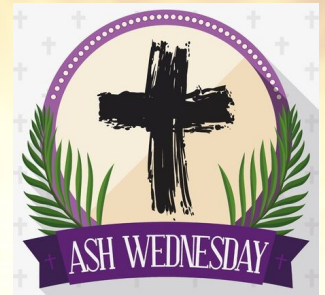
36 years                      2/13/88

Join us for a  
**Healing Service,**

Sunday

**February 4th**

following  
our regular  
worship  
service.



**Feb. 14th**

**Worship service at  
7pm**

**Please join us on Sunday,**

*February 4th*

-for our monthly Fellowship Event following the service. Embrace your inner Yooper as we enjoy a bowl of warm chili and follow it up with ice cream for a doughnut sundae. Whether you like warmth or the cold, we've got you covered. We will have a variety of toppings for each of our meal items.

*Come and join the fun!!*

**WELCA**

February 7th

Meets on the 1st  
Wednesday every  
month at **10:30am**  
for their bible  
study, meeting,  
and meal.

## Financial report:

### Faith Lutheran

Statement of Financial Position For All Funds as of 12/31/2023

	12/31/2023	12/31/2022	\$ Change	% Change
Total Net Assets	-19,227.23	-39,959.26	20,732.03	-51.9%
Total Liabilities + Net Assets	118,509.88	114,381.84	4,128.04	3.6%



# FEBRUARY 2024

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
				1 Psalm 147:1-11, 20c	2 Job 36:1-23	3 Isiah 46:1-13
4 Fifth Sunday after Epiphany <i>Worship</i> 10:30am	5 2 Kings 4:8- 17, 32-37  Quilting 1PM	6 2 Kings 8:1-6  Yoga 9:30AM	7 Job 6:1-13 WELCA 10:30AM  Choir Practice 6PM	8 Leviticus 13:1- 17  Yoga 9:30AM	9 Leviticus 14:1-20	10 Leviticus 14:21-32
11 Transfiguration of Our Lord <i>Worship</i> 10:30am	12 Exodus 19:7- 25  Quilting 1PM	13 Job 19:23-27  Yoga 9:30AM	14   Valentines Day	15 Daniel 9:1-14  Yoga 9:30AM	16 Daniel 9:15- 25a	17 Psalm 32
18 First Sunday of Lent <i>Worship</i> 10:30am	19 Job 4:1-21  Quilting 1PM	20 Job 5:8-27  Yoga 9:30AM Council Meeting 7pm	21 Proverbs 30:1-9  Choir Practice 6PM	22 Genesis 15:1-6, 12-18  Yoga 9:30AM	23 Genesis 16:1- 6	24 Genesis 1:7-15
25 Second Sun- day of Lent <i>Worship</i> 10:30am  <i>Annual Meeting</i>  <i>Followed by wor-</i>	26 Genesis 2:1-7  Quilting 1PM	27 Genesis 22:1- 19  Yoga 9:30AM	28 Jeremiah 30:12-22  Choir Practice 6PM	29 Exodus 19:1-9a  Yoga 9:30AM		

February

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
			1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28				

PATHFINDER



FAITH LUTHERAN CHURCH\*

Phone: 906-632-7246

Email: [faithlc1966@att.net](mailto: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

HELLO  
*February*





February 2024

Faith Lutheran Church  
Sault Ste. Marie, MI