

INSIDE

- p. 1 "From Pastor Rita",
Dates at a glance
- p. 2 Letter from the Bishop
- p. 3 Financial Statement
& Choir Event News
- p. 4 Council Meeting
Minutes
- p. 5 "About Faith Lutheran",
Homebound members
Office Notes
- p. 6 May Anniversaries
and Birthdays!
- p. 7 May Calendar

Dates at a Glance

- + May 5th
Cinco de Mayo
- + May 9th
Ascension of Our Lord
- + May 12th
Mother's Day
- + May 27th
Memorial Day

**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

May 2024

⁶ Jesus said to him, "I am the way and the truth and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me. (John 14: 6, NRSV)

Dear Sisters and Brothers in Christ,

May is a month full of celebrations; we celebrate graduations, Mother's Day, and Memorial Day. May is a month filled with joy, celebration, and plenty of sunshine. This year I am particularly looking forward to it as my son will be home for summer break and I can't wait to see him. Having these events and activities in our lives gives us pleasure and something to look forward to.

As a church, we also look forward to this month because it's Synod Assembly time, when we get to meet ministers and lay people from nearby congregations. The churches of conference 7 will meet on Saturday, May 18th, at our church for the Hybrid Synod Assembly. Please feel to join the meeting.

This month, we have another opportunity to get to know people from other churches within our conference by participating in Synod Wide Hike (UP Wild). Please join us on Saturday, May 11th for an afternoon of fun and fellowship. We will meet at Tahquamenon Falls state park, upper falls parking lot at 12:00PM to experience God's creation and fellowship with one another. Please continue to pray for the upcoming events and church ministries.

May God's peace be with us at all times.

**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>*





*Very truly, I tell you,
unless a grain of wheat
falls into the earth and dies,
it remains just a single grain;
but if it dies, it bears much fruit.*

~John 12: 24



Dear People of the Northern Great Lakes Synod,

The season of gardening is almost upon us. When I was a child, my mother would cajole, plead, and bribe me and my siblings to take a turn weeding in the garden. I always resisted, disliking not only the bending in the hot sun, but the time away from play, even as I had just complained that there was nothing to do.

After my family and I moved to Republic, my husband and I agreed to try gardening. As we planned and planted, I regretted not having paid more attention to all the wisdom that I know my mother had about gardening, but I was too reluctant a student.

It was a surprise to me then, as I weeded the garden, when I unintentionally uprooted a green bean seed that had already sprouted, and what surprised me was how the seed was literally disappearing into the sprout. As I held this disturbed sprout in my dirty hand, I could see that the seed had been split open by the urgent growth of this little tendril shoot that sprung from the mysterious depth of the center of this seed, no bigger than....well....a bean seed. The two halves of the seed that flanked the sprout were pushed to the sides, up and away, and they were getting smaller as the sprout gathered what remained of the seed into itself for upward growth.

I had never seen a seed sprout, not that I could remember, not that I had ever paid attention. And I was newly in awe of the miracle that God provides with seeds and dark earth, water and sun. And then to think that this small sprout would, and indeed did, grow into a bush full of green beans, despite all the weeds that surrounded it. One small seed was transformed into a gallon freezer bag full of long and plump green beans, beans that graced our table at more than a few meals, where my children could count on me to say, just as my mother had, "These beans are from the garden."

God is in the business of new life and transformation, most particularly, transforming death into life. And we are both privileged and burdened to witness the current and ongoing transformation of the Church. Death is hard. We suffer it. We would rather not die. And yet, there is no Easter without Good Friday.

This Spring, in this Easter season of new life, the congregation of St. James in Marinette, WI will give new life to the Church as their church closes. Its end will also be a beginning as it loses itself in support of other ministries and participation in other communities of faith. And yet, St. James will never be lost. It will be remembered and honored as any beloved whose life we celebrate. As in all things, it had a beginning and it will have an end, that God transforms into beginning again.

Just as Jesus the Christ was transformed. Through the open and empty tomb, we are given the clear message that death is not the final word. The grain that was buried for three days is still bearing fruit – as the faithful gather, as they are equipped, as they are sent to plant seeds of faith – seeds that lose themselves in new growth and yield a harvest to a world hungry for the presence of God in Christ Jesus.

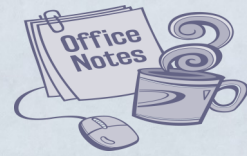
May God bless your seed sowing efforts, both in the dirt of your garden and in the world.

Yours in Christ,
Bishop Katherine Finegan



Faith Lutheran Church
Income & Expenses
Thru March 31, 2024

Financial report:



	Mar-24	Mar-24 Year-to-Date Actual	Mar-24 Year-to-Date Budget	Net Activity Over (Under) Budget
General Fund Revenue	\$ 16,822.00	\$ 50,783.72	# \$ 32,656.00	\$ 18,127.72
Expenses	\$ 12,604.12	\$ 38,404.34	\$ 41,197.00	\$ (2,792.66)
Operating Revenue				
Over (Under) Expenses	\$ 4,217.88	\$ 12,379.38	\$ (8,541.00)	\$ 20,920.38
Total Other Non Operating Revenue	\$ 2,789.35	\$ (5,952.80)	\$ -	\$ (5,952.80)
Other Non Operating Expenditures	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
Balance with Non operating	\$ 7,007.23	\$ 6,426.58	\$ (8,541.00)	\$ 14,967.58

THE JUBILATION CHOIR PRESENTS

“Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat”

Lyrics by Tim Rice Music by Andrew Lloyd Webber

Date: Monday, June 10 Time: 7:00

Location: Faith Lutheran Church - 1600 Park St.



Faith Lutheran Church Council Meeting

Date: March 19, 2024

The meeting was called to order by President Cathy Tibbett at 7:06 PM

Members Present: Pastor Rita Chirala, Cathy Tibbett, Dennis Brindley, Sandy Lawson, Kathy Flickinger, Ken Randall, Member Absent: Ben Deatrick, Al Picotte both excused. Cynthia Wright unexcused.

Attending Meeting: Treasurer Wayne Olsen

Council Meeting: April 16, 2024

Devotions: March- Sandy Lawson April Ken Randall

Minutes: Dennis made a motion to accept the January 16, 2024 Council minutes.

February 25, 2024 Faith's Annual Congregational Meeting with correction, and the February 25, 2024 Special Council Meeting. Ken seconded.

Old Business:

A: Jubilation Choir, a youth choir from St. Stephen Lutheran Church Bloomington, Minnesota will be singing at Faith on Monday June 10, 2024 at 7:00PM. The program is Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat. On their arrival on June 10th and before the performance Faith will host a dinner. After the performance the choir and chaperones will sleep over night on the floors at Faith. The morning of their departure Faith will furnish breakfast.

New Business:

A: New Council member elected by the congregation on the February 25, 2024 Dennis Brindley and Ken Randall were elected for the (2) 3 year term. For the (1) 2 year term Cynthia Wright and for the (2) 1 year term Al Picotte and Kathy Flickinger. Cathy Tibbett and Ken Randall were elected as Synod Delegates. Cynthia Wright was elected alternate Synod Delegate.

Pastors Report: Pastor Rita gave her Pastors report.

Committee Reports:

Campus Ministry: Ken Randall to contact Pastor Marty at Central Methodist Church.

Christian Education: VBS will be June 17-20th, 2024 9:00A.M to 12 noon. The theme is Diving into Friendship with God. Volunteers will be needed and appreciated.

Come to the Table: No report. There was a discussion for future use. No action taken.

Endowment: No report.

Fellowship: Coordinated Soup Supper for the Lenten Season. Plans are being made for the Easter Brunch and a luncheon to honor our mothers on Mothers Day.

Finance: Wayne gave the Financial Report.

Memorial: No report.

Membership: No report.

Outreach: No report.

Property: The soffit on the big window on the south side of the Church needs to be replaced. A portion of the soffit was damaged. The cross on the front of the church has to be checked to determine if it can be repaired. Several cedar trees need to be trimmed.

Stewardship: No report.

WELC: The March 13, 2024 meeting was held with a Bible study. The next meeting is April 3, 2024. The group visited Mary Oja for her 94th birthday and sent birthday Cards to shut ins with March birthdays. WELCA purchased 6 slotted spoons for the kitchen. A donation was made to the family of Saara Raappana.

Worship and Music: The Worship and Music Meeting met on March 5, 2024. Hymns were selected through May 5, 2024. The next meeting will be May 5, 2024.

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

Ken made motion to adjourn. Dennis seconded. Motion passed.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:35PM 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

Pastor: Rev. Rita Chirala

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

Congregational Council:

**Cathy Tibbett, Dennis Brindley, Kathy Flickinger, Sandy Lawson, Ken
Randall, Ben Deatrick, Al Picotte,, and Cynthia wright.**

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 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**





Jack & Louise Armstrong
05/24/1975 48 years

Peggy & Gary Suriano
05/22/1982 41 years

Kathy & Craig Flickinger
05/12/1990 34 years



- 2nd Dennis Brindley
- 5th Josh Sanner
- 6th Chelsea Carr
- 6th Alice Reighard
- 8th Martha Cowan
- 9th Micah Brindley
- 12th Louise Rogers
- 22nd Rodney Kinnear
- 22nd James Trinkle
- 26th Jeanie Richards
- 28th Janet Robinson
- 29th Deb Carr
- 30th Don Hakala

Flower Arrangements

If you would like to have special flowers on the altar in honor of a birthday, memory, or anniversary, please contact Lily Randall to make arrangements.

WELCA

**will meet on
Wednesday,
May 1st at
10:30am for bible
study, meeting,
and meal.**

Healing Service

will be on
May 5th
following worship

Mother's Day Brunch –

The Fellowship Committee invites everyone to join us for a mini Mother's Day Brunch as we honor our mothers. We will be enjoying an assortment of individual quiches, breads, fruit, and sweets. We hope you will attend and perhaps share a special photo or memory during the event.

2024 Northern Great Lakes Synod Assembly-

This year the Synod Assembly will be a hybrid assembly. There will be virtual workshops during the week of the assembly. We will see voting members, in-person at their conference's designated Host Church, connected to the Synod "base of operations" and the other Host Churches via Zoom. Faith has been designated our conferences Host Church. More details will be forthcoming. The business meeting of the assembly will be on May 18th 10am.



May 2024

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			1 Psalm 80	2 Act 10:1-34	3 Acts 10:34-43	4 Psalm 98
5 Sixth Sunday of Easter Worship 10:30am	6 1 Timothy 6:11-12 Quilting 1PM	7 Psalm 93 Yoga 9:30AM	8 Mark 16:19-20	9 Ascension of our Lord Yoga 9:30AM	10 Psalm 47	11 John 16:4-11
12 Seventh Sunday of Easter Mother's Day Worship 10:30am	13 Psalm 115 Quilting 1PM	14 Titus 1:1-9 Yoga 9:30AM	15 Ezra 9:5-15	16 Psalm 33:12-22 Yoga 9:30AM	17 1 Corinthians 15:50-57	18 John 7:37-39
19 Day of Pentecost Worship 10:30am	20 Joel 2:18-29 Quilting 1PM	21 Genesis 11:1-9 Yoga 9:30AM Council Meeting 7pm.	22 Ezekiel 37:1-14	23 Romans 8:1-8 Yoga 9:30AM	24 Romans 8:9-11	25 Psalm 29
26 Fifth Sunday of Easter Worship 10:30am	27 Psalm 20 Quilting 1PM	28 1 Corinthians 2:1-10 Yoga 9:30AM	29 Numbers 6:22-27	30 Romans 3:1-8 Yoga 9:30AM	31 2 Peter 1:1-11	



PATHFINDER



FAITH LUTHERAN CHURCH*

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

May 2024

Faith Lutheran Church
Sault Ste. Marie, MI