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Dates at a Glance

- * **Jan. 1, 2025**
New Year's Day
- * **Jan. 6, 2025**
Epiphany of Our Lord
- * **Jan. 12, 2025**
Baptism of Our Lord
- * **Jan. 20, 2025**
Martin Luther
King Jr. Day

Office hours for Faith Lutheran Church:

Mon. through Thurs. 9AM—2PM

**In case of Pastoral
Emergencies Pastor Rita
can be reached at
1(312) 478-6212
Or by email at
critawilliam@gmail.com**

Letter from Pastor Rita

January 2025

And the Word became flesh and lived among us, and we have seen his glory, the glory as of a father's only son, full of grace and truth. (John 1:14, NRSV)

Dear Faith Family,

Happy New Year! As we welcome the New Year, my hope is that we can once again rejoice in the unfailing love of our Lord Jesus Christ. I want to express my gratitude to each and every one of you for the immeasurable support, kindness, and love you have shown to our church ministries and to one another. This community is truly incredible, and I am extremely grateful to serve it. In this New Year, let us be thankful for everything we have received and shared with one another, and most importantly, for God, who is always with us.

Looking ahead to 2025, it reminds me how much work we still have to do towards our neighbors, communities, and our world. Here is the poem called "*Now the work of Christmas begins*", by Howard Thurman. A poem like this inspires us to strive for greater peace and justice in the world.

Now the work of Christmas begins---

by Howard Thurman---Theologian, educator, civil rights leader.

*When the song of the angel is stilled,
when the star in the sky is gone,
when the kings and princes are home,
when the shepherds are back with their flocks,
the work of Christmas begins:
to find the lost,
to heal the broken,
to feed the hungry,
to release the prisoner,
to rebuild the nations,
to bring peace among the people, to make music in the heart.*

As we begin the new year, we look forward to the work of Jesus' Church, specifically Faith Lutheran Church. Faithfully seeking God's guidance, we prepare to respond with creativity, diligence, and obedience.

**Epiphany Blessings,
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>

Faith Lutheran Church Council Meeting

Date: October 15, 2024

The meeting was called to order by President Cathy Tibbett at 7:00 PM

Members Present: Pastor Rita Chirala, Cathy Tibbett, Sandy Lawson, Kathy Flickinger
Ben Deatrck, Dennis Brindley, Ken Randall

Member Absent: Cynthia Wright unexcused

Guest Attending: Treasurer Wayne Olsen

Devotion: October: Sandy Lawson November: Cynthia Wright

Future Council Meeting: November 19, 2024

Minutes: Dennis Brindley made a motion to accept the September 15, 2024 council minutes.
Ben Deatrck seconded. Motion passed.

Old Business:

A: A discussion on was held on what the cost should be for the Altar flowers when they are donated in the memory of a loved one. Dennis Brindley made a motion to increase the cost from \$20.00 to \$30.00. Kathy Flickinger seconded the motion. Motion passed.

B: Faith returned to Northern Great Lakes Synod \$1716.81 of unused Campus Ministry money that had been given to Faith approximately 7 years ago.

C: Loretta Hallesy requested to use the Fellowship Hall on Thursdays from 4:45PM to 6:00PM for 4H actives for youths. Kathy Flickinger made a motion to accept the request. Ben Deatrck seconded the motion. Motion passed.

New Business:

A: Church Council to meet on October 28, 2028 at 1:00PM to finalize and approve the Church Budget for the 2025 calendar year.

B: November 10, 2028 the Annual Budget Meeting will be held after Church Service.

C: Cathy Tibbett is finalizing the Council Christmas Party date at the Country Club in December.

Pastors Report: Pastor Rita gave her Pastors report.

Committee Reports:

Campus Ministry: Ken Randall to meet with Pastor Mark Gabbart at First Presbyterian Church
Christian Education: Several students continuing to attend.

Come to the Table: No Report

Endowment: No Report.

Fellowship: Sloppy Joes were enjoyed by 26 people on September 29, 2024, Cider and Donuts will be served on October 27, 2024 Reformation Sunday. A Thanksgiving theme meal and recognition to Church volunteers on November 17, 2024 after Church service.

Finance: Wayne Olsen presented the income and expenditures.

Membership: The committee will meet to review and update the membership data.

Memorial: No Report.

Outreach: No Report.

Property: New computer and software has been installed.

Stewardship: Temple talks will continue until October 20th. Pledge Card Sunday is October 27th and there will be a Blessing of the Pledge Cards.

WELCA: The Annual Fall Bazaar was very successful, clearing \$2,400.00 after all expenses were paid. The next meeting is December 4, 2024 at 11:30AM at Applebee's than returning to Faith to work on Christmas Bags and Christmas Cards for the shut ins.

Worship and Music: A written report was submitted. The next meeting is November 21, 2024.

Hymns are selected until November 24, 2024. November 3rd is All Saints Sunday, November 24th is Christ the King Sunday and December 1st Advent begins.

Ben Deatrck made a motion to accept the committee reports including the Pastors Report and Financial Report. Kathy Flickinger seconded. Motion passed.

Dennis Brindley made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Ben Deatrck seconded. Motion passed. The meeting was adjourned at 8:23PM with the Lords Prayer.

Respectfully submitted,
Sandy Lawson, Council Secretary

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, 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: Lakeisha Richards
Congregational Council: Cathy Tibbett, Dennis
Brindley, Kathy Flickinger, Sandy Lawson, Ken
Randall, Ben Deatrck, and Cynthia Wright.



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.faithlutheransaultstемarie.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

Jack Armstrong - 528 Clubhouse Boulevard
New Smyrna Beach, FL 32168

JANUARY BIRTHDAYS

4th Kathy Kagarise
5th William Robinson
8th Erin Lake
12th Peggy Suriano
15th Garrett Peterman
24th Darryl East
29th Nancy Bolio



NO ANNIVERSARIES
THIS MONTH

Join us for
a Healing Service,
Sunday
January 5th,
following our
regular
worship service.

The Annual
Congregational
Meeting will be on
February 9th after
the service.



ANNUAL CONGREGATIONAL REPORT

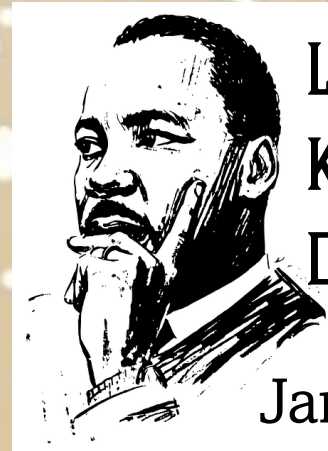
The chair person of committees are requested to please submit their annual committee reports by **January 12th, 2025** to critawilliam@gmail.com & faithlutheranchurchssm@gmail.com For questions or concerns contact Pastor Rita at email listed.

We are planning to take down the Christmas trees and other decorations on **Sunday, January 12th after the worship service**. We ask for all the help we can get with climbing ladders, heavy lifting and extra hands in general. Please come and help us, it is greatly appreciated.

WELCA

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

We encourage all members to **check our website regularly** for updates, announcements, and important information. We are also in the process of adding new photos to our website regularly. If you have any photos or stories to share, please email them to Pastor Rita.



MARTIN
LUTHER
KING JR.
DAY

Jan. 20th

Financial Statement

Faith Lutheran Church
Summary Income Statement
For 2024

	Nov-24	Budget	Net Activity Over (Under) Budget	Last Year Month of November 2024	Nov-24 Year-to-Date Actual	Nov-24 Year-to-Date Budget	Net Activity Over (Under) Budget	Last Year November 2023 Year -to-Date
General Fund Revenue	\$ 8,844.00	\$ 9,000.00	\$ (156.00)	\$ 10,365.96	\$ 140,377.84	\$ 115,539.00	\$ 24,838.84	\$ 129,883.40
Expenses	\$ 11,082.76	\$ 11,227.00	\$ (144.24)	\$ 12,244.86	\$ 136,431.38	\$ 131,504.00	\$ 4,927.38	\$ 128,985.37
Operating Revenue								
Over (Under) Expenses	\$ (2,238.76)	\$ (2,227.00)	\$ (11.76)	\$ (1,878.90)	\$ 9,946.46	\$ (15,965.00)	\$ 19,911.46	\$ (5,151.97)
Total Other Non Operating Revenue	\$ 3,209.18	\$ -	\$ 3,209.18	\$ 7,466.47	\$ 6,423.91	\$ -	\$ 6,423.91	\$ 15,499.02
Other Non Operating Expenditures	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -			\$ -	\$ -	\$ (2,053.01)
Balance with Non operating	\$ 970.42	\$ (2,227.00)	\$ 3,197.42	\$ 5,587.57	\$ 10,370.37	\$ (15,965.00)	\$ 26,335.37	\$ 12,400.06

News from Synod



Winter Classes Begin in January and February

For more information and to register, visit the Northern Great Lakes Synod website:

<https://nglsynod.org/lifelong-faith-formation/>

Youth ministry, the Bible, church traditions, and “Walking With Our Indigenous Neighbors” are included in the focus of Lifelong Faith Formation this winter. In its fifth year, the program is one way for the people of the Northern Great Lakes Synod, and beyond, to take part in conversations that nurture spiritual growth and Christian community. Four courses will meet online via Zoom. One, “Take and Eat,” will be meet in person at Immanuel Lutheran in Escanaba.

HAPPY NEW YEAR!

JANUARY 2025

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			1 Jeremiah 31:7-14 WELCA 10:30am New Years Day	2 Matthew 2:1-12	3 Ephesians 3:1-12	4 Psalm 72: 1-7
5 Second Sunday of Christmas Worship 10:30am	6 Epiphany of Our Lord Isaiah 60: 1-6 Quilting 1pm	7 Psalm 29 Yoga 9am	8 Acts 19:1-7	9 Isaiah 43:1-7 Yoga 9am	10 Luke 3:15-17, 21-22	11 Mark 1:4-11
12 Baptism of Our Lord Worship 10:30am	13 John 1:29-42 Quilting 1pm	14 1 Corinthians 6:12-20 Yoga 9am	15 Isaiah 49:1-7	16 Psalm 36:5-10 Yoga 9am	17 John 2:1-11	18 1 Samuel 3:1-20
19 Second Sunday of Epiphany Worship 10:30am	20 Matthew 4:12-23 Quilting 1pm MLK Jr. Day	21 Jonah 3:1-5,10 Yoga 9am	22 Luke 4:14-21	23 1 Corinthians 7:29-31 Yoga 9am	24 Psalm 19	25 Isaiah 9:1-4
26 Third Sunday of Epiphany Worship 10:30am	27 Deuteronomy 18:15-20 Quilting 1pm	28 Micah 6:1-8 Yoga 9am	29 Mark 1:21-28	30 Psalm 111 Yoga 9am	31 Jeremiah 1:1-10	

Thank you Notes from Homebound Members

a wonderful surprise !!
Thank you for the Christmas
gift — of the "goodie bag".
It was so very nice of
you all — and the lovely
ladies that took the time
to deliver it.
With blessings to all.

many thanks.

The wonders of winter
and the joys of the season...
all of them
are wished for you.

Aili Allen

MEMBERS OF FAITH LUTHERAN
I CAN'T THANK YOU
ENOUGH FOR THE CHRISTMAS
BAG OF HOMEMADE COOKIES,
ORNAMENTS ETC.

I AM TRULY BLESSED
TO BE A MEMBER OF
A CHURCH THAT DOESN'T
FORGET IT'S HOME BOUND
MEMBERS

A SPECIAL THANKS TO
PASTOR BITA FOR YOUR
CALLS AND FOR GIVING US
COMMUNION WHEN WE ASK
MERRY CHRISTMAS
LINDA (AND MIKE)
DORAN

PATHFINDER



FAITH LUTHERAN CHURCH*

Phone: 906 - 632 - 7246

Email: faithlutheranchurchssm@gmail.com

Website: [http:// www.faithlutheransaultstemarie.org](http://www.faithlutheransaultstemarie.org)

* A CONGREGATION OF THE EVANGELICAL CHURCH OF AMERICA

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CHURCH

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