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Dates at a Glance

- ◆ **March 5, 2025**
Ash Wednesday
- ◆ **March 9, 2025**
Daylight Savings Time Begins
- ◆ **March 17, 2025**
St. Patrick’s Day
- ◆ **March 20, 2025**
First Day of Spring

Letter from Pastor Rita

March 2025

“By the sweat of your face, you shall eat bread until you return to the ground, for out of it you were taken; you are dust, and to dust you shall return.” (Genesis 3: 19, NRSV)

Dear sisters and brothers in Christ,

It's almost Lent, which means the cycle of creation will begin anew in a few weeks around springtime. Lent is a time for reflection and repentance. During the early years of Christianity, Lent served as a time of preparation for experiencing and reflecting on Jesus' death and resurrection. As we enter this Holy Time of year, we have the opportunity to grow spiritually and experience new life through Jesus Christ.

The forty days of Lent present us with an opportunity to reassess ourselves before God and one another. In this sacred season, I invite you to join us for five Wednesdays of Lent, for Soup Supper at 5pm followed by the Lenten devotions at 5:45 to 6:30 p.m. I hope that many of you will be able to attend and participate in the devotions.

Let us rejoice and be glad in the grace given to us through the death and resurrection of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ!

Yours in Christ

Pastor Rita.

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



Join us Sunday's at 10:30AM

You can watch live on Facebook

*We begin with organ music at 10:20am.

<https://www.facebook.com/FaithLC1966>

Synod News & Faith's News

New Membership

There will be a class for new membership soon. Let Pastor Rita know if you are interested in joining Faith.

Ash Wednesday service will be at **7 PM on March 5th** with Holy Communion

Lenten Devotions

We will be holding 5 weeks of Lenten Devotions on Wednesday evenings starting

March 12th to April 9th

with a soup supper at 5PM followed by the devotion starting at 5:45pm.

Winter 2025 Lifelong Faith Formation Class Schedule

Introduction to Biblical Greek II with Pastor Nicole Hanson-Lynn, Salem & Zion, Ironwood

Sunday evenings, beginning January 19 (end date to be determined)
7–8 p.m. Eastern Time, 6–7 p.m. Central Time

Walking With Our Indigenous Neighbors with members of the Walking With Our Indigenous Neighbors Synod Task Force

Tuesday evenings for 4 weeks, February 4 – 25
7–8 p.m. Eastern Time, 6–7 p.m. Central Time

Take and Eat: A Study of Food and Spirituality, from Holy Communion to Potlucks with Pastor Mike Markwell, meeting at Immanuel, Escanaba

Every other Wednesday evening, January 22 – March 5
6–7 p.m. Eastern Time, 5–6 p.m. Central Time

Revelation – Revealing a Book of Hope & Comfort with Pastor Tommy Richter, Zion, Manistique

Thursday evenings for 10 weeks, January 16 – March 20
7–8 p.m. Eastern Time, 6–7 p.m. Central Time

Growing Younger: Sharing Ideas and Strategies to Engage Young People with Stefanie Ehle, Youth Coordinator, Northern Great Lakes Synod and members of the Youth Ministry Team

Third Thursday of each month, January 16 – May 15
6–7 p.m. Eastern Time, 5–6 p.m. Central Time

Calling all singers! If you're interested in joining the **Hiawathaland Community Chorus**, practices begin on **Monday, March 10th** from 6:30-8pm at Rudyard Christian Reformed Church. You can contact Dave Erfourth for more information.

Financial Statement

Faith Lutheran Church
Summary Income Statement
For 2025

	Jan-25	Budget	Net Activity Over (Under) Budget	Last Year Month of January 2025	Jan-25 Year-to-Date Actual	Jan-25 Year-to-Date Budget	Net Activity Over (Under) Budget	Last Year January 2025 Year-to-Date
General Fund Revenue	\$ 10,835.00	\$ 24,047.00	\$ (13,212.00)	\$ 24,157.72	\$ 10,835.00	\$ 24,047.00	\$ (13,212.00)	\$ 24,157.72
Expenses	\$ 13,046.63	\$ 13,155.00	\$ (108.37)	\$ 13,021.18	\$ 13,046.53	\$ 13,155.00	\$ (108.47)	\$ 13,021.18
Operating Revenue								
Over (Under) Expenses	\$ (2,211.63)	\$ 10,892.00	\$ (13,103.63)	\$ 11,136.54	\$ (2,211.53)	\$ 10,892.00	\$ (13,103.53)	\$ 11,136.54
Total Other Non Operating Revenue	\$ (7,054.88)	\$ -	\$ (7,054.88)	\$ (10,735.67)	\$ (7,054.88)	\$ -	\$ (7,054.88)	\$ (10,735.67)
Other Non Operating Expenditures	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -					
Balance with Non operating	\$ (9,266.51)	\$ 10,892.00	\$ (20,158.51)	\$ 400.87	\$ (9,266.41)	\$ 10,892.00	\$ (20,158.41)	\$ 400.87

Faith Lutheran Church Council Meeting

January 21, 2025

The meeting was called to order by President Cathy Tibbett at 10:40AM

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

Member Absent: Cynthia Wright, Kathy Flickinger, excused

Guest Attending: Treasurer Wayne Olsen

Devotions: Dennis Brindley February: Dennis Brindley

Future Council Meeting: February 18, 2025 at 10:30AM

Minutes: Dennis Brindley made a motion to accept the November 19, 2024 Council minutes. Dixie Picotte seconded. Motion passed.

Old Business:

A: Congregational Semi Annual 1st Half meeting to be held on February 9, 2025.

B: The nomination committee offered the following candidates for the three 3 year council positions, Kathy Flickinger, Sandy Lawson and Wayne Olsen. For the 2 Synod Assembly delegates Ann Bean and Dave Bean are candidates. Openings for 2 Synod Assembly alternates

C: A protocol policy from the Synod on Child protection was tabled until the February 18, 2025 Council meeting.

New Business:

A: Pastor Rita will be off January 26, 2025. Pastor Paul will do Sunday Service. Cathy Tibbett made a motion to approve the request, Sandy Lawson seconded. Motion passed.

B: A reminder not to park in the Handicap area unless you have a Handicap permit for a vehicle.

C: Zion Lutheran Church sent a letter to clarify rumors that concern their Church. The letter is posted on the main bulletin board.

D: A Thank You letter was received from Good Shepard Lutheran Church and Campus Ministry Houghton, Michigan for a gift of \$1716.81. This was the money returned from Faith's Campus Ministry to the Synod to help kitchen upgrade for Campus Ministry at Michigan Tech University. The letter is posted on the main bulletin board.

Pastors Report: Pastor Rita gave her Pastors report

Committee Reports:

Campus Ministry: Still on Pause.

Christian Education: Sunday School students are attending.

Come to the Table: No Report.

Endowment: There is \$1365.00 unused money from the Endowment disbursement of 2024. The Endowment Disbursement for 2025 is \$4065.00. Treasurer Olsen requested that both unused monies be deposited in the general checking account to help pay for current bill if necessary but would be available for Endowment distribution. Sandy Lawson made a motion to accept the request. Dixie Picotte seconded. Motion passed. 1 descent.

Fellowship: Christmas Eve Fellowship Hour was attended by approximately 60 people and enjoyed by all, Upcoming events are 1: February 16, 2025 Bingo. 2: March 12, 2025 to April 9, 2025 Lenten Soup Suppers. 3: April 20, 2025 Easter. 4: May 18, 2025 celebration for Mothers Day and Graduates. Information for each event will be announced closer to the dates.

Finance: Wayne Olsen presented the income and expenditures. No excess money.

Memorial: No Report

Membership: Meeting to be decided.

Outreach: \$725.00 was collected to buy 31 Visa Gift Cards that were given to the Salvation Army as Christmas gifts to be distributed to teenagers. Thank you for your contributions.

Property: The agent from Church Mutual was at Faith and went over the insurance policy and found that \$1000.00 could be saved in insurance premiums. Thank you to Ed Hallquist and Wayne Olsen for repairing the Altar and Candle Holders.

Staff Support: Nesburn Richards hired as a part time custodian.

Stewardship: No Report

WELCA: Bible Study on January 8, 2025. No decisions were made in January. The agenda was tabled to the February 2025 meeting.

Worship and Music: Next meeting is February 4, 2025 to plan for Lent and Easter. Hymns are up to date.

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

Ben Deatrck made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Ken Randall seconded. Motion passed.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:36PM 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 faithlutheran-churchssm@gmail.com

Pastor: Rev. Rita Chirala

Church Office: Lakeisha Richards

Congregational Council: Cathy Tibbett, Dennis Brindley, Kathy Flickinger, Sandy Lawson, Ken Randall, Ben Deatrick, Cynthia Wright, and Wayne Olsen.



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



2nd Tiffany Kagarise

4th Catherine Tibbett

7th Jason Markstrom

7th Annette Wojnaroski

8th Kenneth Lake

8th Linda Doran

11th Michael East

13th Mary Oja

13th Billy Norton

15th Gary Suriano

17th Bristol Hallesy

18th Heather East

19th Ken Randall

24th Jack Bachand

30th Greg Brewster

30th Ashley Flickinger

31st Susan Cox

Gail & Jim Knight

66 years 3/28/59

Linda & Michael Doran

50 years 3/15/75

Dave & Pat Deatrck

49 years 3/13/76

Matthew & Tiffany Kagarise

9 years 3/12/16

March 5th



Join us for a
Healing Service

March 2nd

following our
regular worship
service.

WELCA

March 5th

meets the first
Wednesday of every
month
at 10:30am
for their bible
study, meeting,
and meal.

Daylight Savings Time

Begins on March 9th!

Don't forget to set your
clocks **forward** an
hour. Spring is almost
here!

MARCH 2025

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
						1 Luke 6:39-49
2 Transfiguration of Our Lord Girl Scouts 2pm Worship 10:30am	3 Psalm 2 Quilting 1pm	4 Matthew 17:1-9 Yoga 9:30am	5 Psalm 51:1-17 WELCA 10:30am Ash Wed. Service 7pm	6 Isaiah 51:1-12 Yoga 9:30am	7 Joel 2:1-2,12-17	8 Matthew 6:1-6,16-21
9 Daylight Savings Time Begins First Sunday of Lent Worship 10:30am	10 Genesis 9:8-17 Quilting 1pm	11 Psalm 25:1-10 Yoga 9:30am	12 1 Peter 3:18-22	13 Mark 1:9-15 Yoga 9:30am	14 Romans 10:8b-13	15 Luke 4:1-13
16 Second Sunday of Lent Worship 10:30am	17 Genesis 12:1-4a Quilting 1pm St. Patrick's Day	18 John 3:1-17 Yoga 9:30am Council Meeting	19 Mark 8:31-38	20 Psalm 121 Yoga 9:30am First Day of Spring!	21 Luke 13:31-35	22 Romans 4:13-25
23 Third Sunday of Lent Worship 10:30am	24 Exodus 17:1-7 Quilting 1pm	25 Psalm 95 Yoga 9:30am	26 John 4:5-42	27 Romans 5:1-11 Yoga 9:30am	28 Isaiah 55:1-9	29 1 Corinthians 10: 18-25
30 Fourth Sunday of Lent Worship 10:30am	31 Numbers 21:4-9 Quilting 1pm					

*Valentine's Bingo
February 16, 2025*



PATHFINDER



FAITH LUTHERAN CHURCH*

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

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

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