

We are celebrating **Faith Child Care & Nursery School** on Sunday, February 2 ending **National Lutheran Schools Week!**

National Lutheran Schools Week



January 26 - February 1,
2025

In thankfulness and appreciation for FCCNS and the blessing our teachers & staff are to our children, **we will be celebrating each day of the week of January 27 with different treats.** You can be a part of this celebration by signing up in the concourse to providing daily treats. This includes:

- Mini Muffin Monday for FCCNS Community
- Pizza Tuesday for the Staff
- Parfait Wednesday for the Staff
- Popcorn Thursday for FCCNS Community
- Dessert Friday for FCCNS Community

More details are on the sign up sheet in the concourse. If you would prefer to donate monetarily towards this celebratory week, please see Mari-Beth Schembri or Kris Cronk.

Thank you for being a blessing to the FCCNS Community!



Faith Congregation Annual Meeting

The Faith Leadership Board is inviting all members to join us for the upcoming in-person Congregational Voters' Meeting on February 2, 2025 at 12:30pm.

This meeting will include the presentation of nominees for the Faith Leadership Board, Financial and Committee Reports, along with the proposed 2025 Budget and proposed changes to Faith Lutheran's Constitution and Bylaws (*see proposals near end of these announcements*). **A Zoom Link will be forthcoming for those who cannot attend in-person. However, all voting will be in person.** The full packet and agenda will be available on January 19th. A free-will offering lunch will be provided at 12:00.

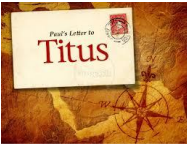


Missions has approved a matching fund drive to help the victims of the wildfires. Missions will match the first \$5000. All monies raised will go to Lutheran Disaster Response for their wildfire relief efforts. Donations can be made to Faith with "wildfire" in the memo line. Matching deadline will be Feb 15th.

Today is the last Sunday that Pastor Peter is leading a **New Member Class** on from 9:45 a.m. to 10:40 a.m. in the Community Room. This is an informal class designed for newcomers, inquiries, and prospective members of our congregation. The class is a time of discussion, discovery, presentation, and inclusion.



We will be officially welcoming anyone who would like to become an official member of Faith on Sunday, January 26th. Any questions, call the office at 381-3970.



Paul's Letter to Titus

Join us today for a study of the book of Titus. We will discuss concepts of Godly leadership and discipleship and consider the trials of ministering to Cretan culture as well as our own. We will rejoice together with Paul and

Titus in our redemption in Christ and freedom from sin as we study this wonderful letter with a focus on what it means to be entrusted with the good news of Christ. This class is led by Michael Balentine in the Auditorium.

"Faith Together; I am a member of Faith, now what?"

New Bible Study, intended for all members AND THOSE ATTENDING Faith, will look at the Biblical model of a church, Christ's direction to His followers, and how we, here at Faith, can 'Connect, Grow, and Serve' as part of the body of Christ. This study, lead by Pastor Peter with Diane Van Auken, **starts 1/26/25** and is a seven (7) week series that goes to 3/16/25, with one week intermission for a mission project. We look forward to having you all attend.



It is a new year and we have many opportunities ahead to dedicate Altar Flowers on a weekly basis beautifying our Sanctuary! There is a sign-up book on the information center in the Concourse, an online opportunity at faithpenfield.org under Resources, or you can call Kris Cronk in the office at 585-381-3970. There is a fee of \$75 for the altar flower arrangements.

Ending February 16th, our **Kidz Konnect Group** for 4th - 6th graders we will be collecting new and gently used winter hats/gloves, hand warmers, granola bars/small snacks and small hygiene products (toothbrushes, toothpaste, deodorant, soaps, etc...) to fill **Blessing Bags** for those less fortunate in our community. Please place donated items in the labeled bins located in the Concourse.

The Blessing Bags



L.I.F.T sign-ups for 2025 are available in the concourse book now! Please take a moment to pick a month you'd like to host/organize/lead so our fellowship activities continue into the new year!



If you are receiving **Offering Envelopes** for 2025, they can be found in the concourse.

When a building is filled with children Monday through Friday and Sundays for the last 55 years it is bound to show its age. The west wing bathrooms have been in need of repair for some time. So, thanks to a Memorial Fund designation and FCCNS's Board approval to allocate reserve funds towards this project, the West Wing Bathroom Repair Team started reimagining what the bathrooms could look like. Andrew Fedick (the contractor who built our pavilion) will begin the repair in Mid-January.



A big thank you to our Joseph Guild who performed the preliminary demolition of the bathrooms on Saturday, January 11th so that the rest of the project can begin on Monday, January 13th.

Pre-Phase 1	<i>Joseph Guild Demolition:</i>	January 11 th
Phase 1	<i>Asbestos Abatement:</i>	January 13 th - 17 th
Phase 2	<i>Contractor Demolition:</i>	January 20 th -24 th
Phase 3	<i>Dur-A Quartz Epoxy Floors:</i>	January 27 th -30 th
Phase 4	<i>Construction:</i>	January 31 st - February 14 th

Thank You to those of you who have submitted Contribution Pledges for 2025!



As a reminder, please update your online giving instructions (if applicable) to represent your 2025 pledge. You can call the office and speak with Kay Gerlach or Beth Camann should you need assistance with this. **It is not too late to submit pledges for 2025.**

Children's & Family Ministry Announcements

Sunday School 2025

Sunday School is available to children age 4-6th Grade. Sunday School is offered every Sunday from 9:45-10:40am. Please see the schedule located on the Children's Ministries bulletin board in the concourse each week for your child's classroom location.



*From the
Pastor's
Desk*



From the Pastor's Desk:

A New Position for the Digital Mission Field *Excerpts taken from the "Pastor Peter's Perspective" article in the January Faith Notes.*

According to recent studies, over **63%** of the global population – approx. **5.3 billion people** – are active internet users, and social media platforms engage over **4.8 billion people** worldwide. Research from the Barna Group reveals that younger generations, particularly Gen Z, spend an average of **4-6 hours** daily engaging with digital content. Among this demographic, more than **50%** say they are open to exploring spiritual content online. This is the reality in which we live.

Recently, our Faith Leadership Board gave their approval for a new full-time position at Faith called, "**Director of Digital Arts**" or **DDA** for short. Faith's DDA will be a "digital missionary" as they will oversee, manage, and create new digital content for Faith. This includes overseeing our livestream ministry, enhancing Faith's social media and online presence, creating short-form video content, engaging with people online and inviting them to Faith, recruiting and training more volunteers in our AV ministry, and more. It's a needed position at Faith to help meet the current and future needs of our community and world.

This position will be voted on by our congregation in our annual **Voters' Meeting on Feb. 2**, as part of the 2025 budget proposal.

To hear more about this new DDA position, I will be leading a short info meeting about it on **Sunday, Jan. 19 @ noon** in the Auditorium.

Please know that the creation of this DDA position does not diminish our need for a Director of Christian Education (DCE) at Faith. Both positions are needed in helping us reach people. Let's pray for a DDA and a DCE to join us this year in sharing the Gospel of Jesus with the world!

Faith Lutheran Youth (FLY) Announcements

Jr. FLY Confirmation Class on Sundays @ 9:45-10:40am in Room 204

Sr. FLY Bible Class on Sundays @ 9:45-10:40am in Room 201

Sunday Night FLY “REMIX” – Jan. 26 @ 7pm

YOU will vote for one lesson and one game we'll do together! Invite your friends to this FUN night where YOU are in charge of what we do!



FLY Internship Opportunity!

Have you ever wanted to serve and grow as a Christian leader in FLY? Are you interested in leading Bible studies or planning FLY events? If so, pray about applying to be a new FLY Intern for 6 months starting March 3, 2025. Mackenzie Hoad currently serves as our FLY Intern and her term ends on Mar. 2 (at the Sr. FLY Winter Retreat). There are two spots available for people to serve as interns! The internship application is available in the FLY Room and the FLY bulletin board this month. The application deadline is January 31. Talk to Pastor Peter if you have any questions.

32nd Annual Coffee House – Fri, Jan. 31st @ 7pm

Everyone is invited to an evening of fun-filled entertainment in the Faith Auditorium on Jan. 31st! Faith's 32nd Annual Coffee House variety show will highlight various talented people from our church while raising money for youth attending the Youth Gathering in New Orleans this July!

Many thanks to all who signed up to share their talents on-stage! A talent can be baking, too, because FLY will be serving desserts made by Faith members! **Bakers can sign-up in the Concourse this month** and deliver their baked goods to the church kitchen before the show.

Please talk to Pastor Peter if you have questions. The doors will open at 6:30pm and the acts will begin at 7. Come enjoy desserts, coffee, smoothies, talented performers, and more!

***Help volunteer at the Coffee House! Check out the sign-up sheet on the FLY bulletin board to join a volunteer team! Many thanks!**

Faith Lutheran Church's 32nd Annual

Coffee House

- HOSTED BY AVA BERNHARDT -

FRIDAY, JANUARY 31ST

DOORS OPEN AT 6:30PM

SHOW BEGINS AT 7PM

IN THE FAITH LUTHERAN CHURCH AUDITORIUM

VARIETY SHOW FEATURING:

**VOCALISTS, MUSICIANS, COMEDY,
SURPRISES & MORE!**

**ENJOY COFFEE, DESSERTS,
& SMOOTHIES THROUGHOUT THE SHOW!**

**PROCEEDS BENEFIT OUR YOUTH ATTENDING
THE YOUTH GATHERING IN NEW ORLEANS IN 2025!**

FAITH LUTHERAN YOUTH (FLY) 2576 BROWNCROFT BLVD. FAITHPENFIELD.ORG

STEWARDSHIP MESSAGE FROM THE FAITH LEADERSHIP BOARD

The ongoing operations of Faith rely entirely on the generosity of the congregation to provide the funding support for the ministries that are so important to us and the community in which we serve.

We give thanks to God for your gifts to the general operating fund. We experienced a 1% favorable variance in envelope giving for the month of December resulting in a year-to-date favorable budget variance of \$11,075 which represents a favorable budget variance of 2%.

We encourage you to prayerfully consider how God is calling you to be a faithful steward of the many gifts He has given you. We look forward to receiving your 2025 pledge card and deeply appreciate any way in which you choose to participate in and support the many ministries and outreach of Faith that allow us to continue to “Connect, Grow and Serve”.

God reminds us in 1 Peter 4:10, “Each of you should use whatever gift you have received to serve others, as faithful stewards of God’s grace in its various forms.”

FAITH'S STEWARDSHIP RESPONSE FOR PRIOR MONTH:

ENVELOPE GIVING					
	Voter		Variance	%	Prior Year
December 2024	Approved Budget	Actual	from Budget	Variance	Actual
Monthly Total	\$75,000	\$75,999	\$999	1%	\$77,945
Year-to-Date Total	\$665,000	\$676,075	\$11,075	2%	\$658,926

Proposals for Faith's Annual Voters' Meeting on Feb. 2

Proposal 1: Faith Lutheran Church Constitution

Current Language

Article VIII – Legal Ownership

B. The property of this congregation is irrevocably dedicated to religious and charitable purposes and no part of net income or assets of this congregation shall ever accrue to the benefit of any director, officer or member thereof or to the benefit of any individual. If at any time this congregation is dissolved, there shall be provision for payment of any financial obligations that at such time may be outstanding against the congregation. Any surplus or other assets after settlement for all just claims against the congregation shall be disposed of as directed by the Voters' Assembly in accordance with the irrevocable dedication to religious and charitable purposes herein stated. The procedure for such action is stated in this congregation's Bylaws Article II, C, 2.

Recommendation

Article VIII – Legal Ownership

B. In the event that the congregation dissolves, all real and personal property shall be disposed of by the final voters assembly for the payment of debts and all just claims against the congregation, and any and all surplus and all rights connected therewith shall be conveyed to and become the property of the Eastern District of the Lutheran Church - Missouri Synod or other qualifying organization, as determined by the congregation. The procedure for such action is stated in this congregation's Bylaws Article II, C, 4.

Notes from FLB: * 1/14/25 revision to notes by FLB

*The language referred is created to make sure the IRS rules are followed relating to 501(c) (3) entities. The Eastern District (ED) does not require a member church to name the ED as the transferee in a dissolution setting. The Lutheran Church Missouri Synod (LCMS) does not require any specific language in a dissolution clause. The only requirement is for the clause to comply with applicable law. The decision will be determined by the congregation and its voting members. Faith is NOT in a dissolution position now, or in the foreseeable future. It is always possible to make more specific revisions in anticipation of that event.

**Proposal 2:
Faith Lutheran Church Bylaws**

Current Language

C. Voting Privileges

4. The acquisition or disposal of Church property (i.e., land, capital improvements and construction of fixed properties), except undesignated bequests and estates;

Recommendation

C. Voting Privileges

4. The acquisition or disposal of Church property (i.e., land, capital improvements that represent a lasting upgrade, adaptation or enhancement of the property which significantly increases the value of the property as determined by Faith's Leadership Board, and construction of fixed properties that become part of the real property or are permanently affixed to the real property and significantly increases the value of the property as determined by Faith's Leadership Board), except undesignated bequests and estates;

Notes from FLB:

FLB does not recommend attaching a dollar amount to this section of the bylaws as to avoid the need to update this amount to keep pace with ever-changing economic conditions. Our Leadership Board and Property Team should be free to make any necessary upgrades or repairs to the building and its systems to keep our property well maintained, safe and operating at peak efficiency.

A capital improvement is generally considered to be "a durable lasting upgrade, adaptation or enhancement of the property which significantly increases the value of the property". New York utilizes a three-prong test to define a capital improvement for sales tax purposes. **All three** of the following criteria must be met:

- substantially adds to the value of the real property or appreciably prolongs the useful life of the real property,
- becomes part of the real property or is permanently affixed to the real property so that removal would cause material damage to the property of the item itself, **and**
- it's intended to become a permanent installation.

**Proposal 3:
Faith Lutheran Church Bylaws**

Current Language

Bylaw II – Voting Privileges of Membership

E. Voting Procedures and Meeting

2. A Voters Meeting shall occur at least annually, for the adoption of the budget, presentation of the annual report, and elections. This meeting will normally occur in January.

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Recommendation

Bylaw II – Voting Privileges of Membership

E. Voting Procedures and Meeting

2. A Voters Meeting shall occur at least annually, for the adoption of the budget, presentation of the annual report, and elections. This meeting will normally occur in January or February

Notes from FLB:

The early February date allows for time to receive the end of the year financials and prepare them for the Voters Meeting.

January 12th Worship Attendance

In-Person: 218 Livestream: 87 Total: 305

January 26th Scriptures

Gospel: Luke 4:14-21

Epistle: 1 Corinthians 12:12-31a

Old Testament: Nehemiah 8:1-3, 5-6, 8-10

Birthdays and Anniversaries

Celebrating Birthdays This Week

1/20 Scarlet Kabat, Sally Schooley

1/21 Harper Cummings, Madelyn Cummings, Peter Versprille,
Jack Webb

1/23 Madison Steiner, Tracey Testa

1/24 Will Withall

1/25 Sydney Crouse, Sharon Kiellach

Celebrating Anniversaries This Week

1/23 Tim & Kimberley Albert

1/25 Edward & Rae Usinger

Ongoing Prayers

Faith Members and Friends

Tim Albert, Cory Alberti, Cris Alello, Jeff Aspenleiter, Sandi Banning, Dan Behnfeldt, Ruth Behnfeldt, Diann Berndt, Sue & Guy Brown, Darlene Byrns, Torrence Couture, Sam Falzone, John Glenn, Jackie Johnson, June Leibring, Hayden Lincoln, Aram Mangerian, Donna Pellnat, Daryl Pichan, Lois Ronnenberg, Wayne Samuels, Catharine Schmidt, Mary Schutte, Ellen Smurthwaite, Ida Stiner, Eric Sykes, Ronald Uecker, Diane Wagner, Bob Welk, Penny Wheeler, Terry Wheeler, Bob Wyman

Those in Care Facilities

June Leibring	Baywinde (Webster)
Ed Lindskoog	Baywinde (Webster)
Bert & Brigitta Lux	Heathwood (Penfield)
Sally Schooley	Maplewood (Webster)
Ida Stiner	Brentland (Henrietta)

Serving in the Military

Ryan Brink	Nephew of Terry & Penny Wheeler
Will Brown	Friend of Charlie Arnone
Sean Dempsey	Nephew of Ed & Marsha Freeman
Thomas DiMiero	Son of Paul DiMiero
Elizabeth Flint	Niece of Jon & Terry Allen
Michael Flint	Nephew of Jon & Terry Allen
Jasigha Garrett	Nephew of Taylor Saunders-Garrett
Aaron Johnstone	Godson of Lisa Sykes
Ben Krenzer	Son of William & Barbara Krenzer
Paul Krenzer	Son of William & Barbara Krenzer
Andrew Lindskoog	Son of David & Cathy Lindskoog Grandson of Ed Lindskoog
Alexander Mangerian	Son of Peter Mangerian & Laura Mangerian-Smith Grandson of Elisabeth Mangerian
Lauren Marcum	Niece of Dick & Roxanne Leschhorn
Marques Marion	Former Assistant Teacher at FCCNS
Tim Monczynski	Son-In-Law of Ed & Marsha Freeman
Jake Moszkowicz	Neighbor of Diane Van Auken
Mattie McDonough	Son of John & Carolyn McDonough
Alana Nicole Neves	Niece of Dick & Roxanne Leschhorn
Quaysean Odom	Relative of Elisabeth Mangerian
Omar Parkinson	Son-in-law of Sharon Davenport
Kayla Petteway	Relative of Elisabeth Mangerian

Extended Family and Friends

Cathy's Husband, Cousin of RJ Campoli, Elle, George, Jeff, Jessica, Lou, Nancy, Patty, Steve & Pat, Sue, Diane Alexander, Vanmany Banks, Celia Butterhold, RJ Campoli, Rich Causey, Rebecca Cronk, Natasha Doebler & daughter, Sarah Flint, Kevin Fries, Charles Gray, Elynn Haden, Bill Hughes, Karen Keiter, Kris Kessler, Don Kot, Jeremy LaFond, Scott McCarthy, Elizabeth Samuels-McGahey, Thelma McKee, Ed McMaster, Edward Menzies, Jeffrey Menzies, Scott Menzies, Trey Michel, Cliff Milner, John Mirabito, Rick Monczynski, George New, Mark Niemeir, Ed Oliver, Domenica Panichia, Kevin Patterson, Nancy Perry, Vincent Poromon, Sue Provencher, Mike Radigan, Heikki Rantakari, Tom Scott, Beverly Soanes, Susan Spano, Mike & Nancy Stirling, Cathy Storm, Phil Tallenger, Jim & Jacquie Van Auken, Sue Weatherall, Greg Werth, John Woods