



1402 East Avenue C, Bismarck, ND 58501

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After Hours Emergency Line: 701-595-0223

[www.faithbismarck.com](http://www.faithbismarck.com)

# News and Views

April 2024

Volume 2024, Issue 3

## MISSION STATEMENT

*"We are building a welcoming, nurturing faith community that is guided by Jesus and shares the Gospel."*

**NIGHT AT THE DISCO**  
**YOUTH MURDER MYSTERY DINNER**  
**Saturday, April 6, 2024 @ 5:45pm**  
**106 N. Mandan St. (Cards, Games & More)**

FLC Youth, please join us for a 70s themed Murder Mystery Dinner! Twelve spots available. Characters will be assigned in the week leading up to the event. Costumes and acting are highly encouraged! Pizza provided. RSVP by calling the church office at (701) 223-2236, emailing Kenny, or using the sign up sheet by April 1st.

## FAITH LUTHERAN CHURCH CLERGY

**Pastor Derek Harkins**  
(Fridays off)

**Pastor Sylvia Bull**  
(Fridays off)

## WORSHIP SCHEDULE

SUNDAY: 8:30am & 11 am

WED: 7:00pm

LIVESTREAM AT SUN 8:30  
& WED 7:00

## OFFICE HOURS

Monday - Thursday

8:00 AM - 12 PM

1:00 PM - 5 PM

Friday: 8:00 AM - Noon

**Pastoral Care  
Emergency Number  
701-595-0223**

Answering machine is available evenings and weekends when the office is not staffed.

Office is not open during the lunch hour.

## *Summer Worship Hours*

As a reminder,

From Memorial Day weekend to Labor Day weekend, we will have one 9:30 am Sunday service along with our usual 7:00 pm service Wednesday!

**FLC Executive Team**

Jim Sheldon, Chair

Amy Steiner, Vice-Chair

Lyla Timm, Vice-Chair

Mark Schneider, Secretary

Matthew Nygard, Treasurer

**Pastoral Ministries**

***Funerals:***

Kevin Kraft

Bev Zins



**FINANCIAL UPDATE**

**February General Fund:**

Revenues: \$45,261.05

Expenditures: \$47,684.20

**2024 Total:**

Revenues: \$97,019.01

Expenditures: \$109,344.35



The deadline to submit information to the News and Views newsletter is the 10th of each month prior to the next newsletter. The church bulletin deadline is at noon on Tuesday for the coming Sunday bulletin. Articles, schedules, etc., can be sent to: [communications.bisfaith@gmail.com](mailto:communications.bisfaith@gmail.com) For additional information, call the church office at 701-223-2236

**Church Memorials**

For **General Fund**, in memory of Vi Just and Nick Jolliffe.

For **Altar Guild**, in memory of Vi Just and Diantha Nodland.

For **Church School Tables**, in memory of Larry Graf.

Details can be found in the Memorial Book in the Gathering Place.

# Friends in Faith

My Friends in Faith,

He always went outside to walk around the yard and do what dogs do. This Sunday, which was the coldest Sunday in January, he didn't come back. The people in the house searched for Jiggers and posted on social media. Eight days went by and the people feared that he was gone forever.

Then the phone rang. He was found on the other side of the Missouri River. A man, who was walking with his dog, noticed a sad and lonely dog wandering nearby. The man helped him and found the family to whom he belonged. Jiggers came home and his family was able to determine that in trying to survive he was eating leaves and bark.

Most of us at some point in our lives have felt the pain and loneliness of being lost. There was, or is today, a burden heavy upon our heart and mind. We shiver from fear like Jiggers did as he was wandering across the frozen river on that cold, cold January day.

It is not easy to ask for help. We do not want to put our burden upon someone else. Jiggers approached a man he did not know and in a dog's way asked for help and help was given. We too can approach people for help. It may be the one who sits three pews away from us in church. It may be a friend at school or work. Or it may be a stranger at one of the agencies in our community who are there for us.

Take care my Friends and remember that there will always be help.

Bennett R. Kubischta

March 8, 2024, 10:25 am



## **Library Link** by LeAnn Severson

The Lenten service sessions, following the theme of Holy Living, Holy Dying, proved to be enlightening and beneficial. The knowledgeable presenters and the materials they provided are making the process of documenting end of life plans easier to implement.

Since all of us experience grief during our lifetime, this is a good time to remind you that our church library has a designated section of resources to help those who are grieving or walking with others through their grief. Several titles are available in multiple copies that may be used long-term. When you are finished with them they can be returned to the library or passed on to others who would benefit from reading them.

*(continued on next page)*

Books to help children understand and cope with loss and grief in a positive learning experience, following the death of a family member, friend or pet, are available in the children's section and are partitioned with a titled divider as well. My favorite, *THE NEXT PLACE* by Warren Hanson, is a beautiful book of light, hope, awe and wonder that can provide an uplifting sense of comfort and serenity for adults as well as children.

## Women of Faith

The Women of Faith will be attending the **East Missouri Spring Cluster Gathering** on **Saturday, April 13th from 9:30 am to 2pm**. The Gathering will be at Sunne Lutheran Church in Wilton, ND. Join us as we hear from Holly Triska-Dally, ND State Refugee Coordinator, as she talks about how state programs develop community collaborations to strengthen and guide New Americans as they become welcomed neighbors and valued contributors to the economy. Love gifts of paper products for the Wilton Food Pantry are also welcome. Look out for a sign-up sheet on the Concierge Table!

Save the Date for the **Women's Western Synod Convention**, to be held at Trinity Lutheran in Bismarck, on **Friday June 21 and Saturday, June 22**. More information to follow!

Starting in April, **Ruth Circle** is meeting every second Thursday. Join us on April 11!

## *WELCA Gathering*

**Saturday, April 27 at 1:00 pm**

**Faith Lutheran Church**

**1402 East Ave C**

**Bismarck, ND 58501**

Join us for food and fellowship as we welcome our speakers, Deputy Director Matthew McCleary & Executive Director Carlotta McCleary of both Mental Health America of ND (MHAND) and Federation of Families for Children's Health of ND (NDFFCMH), who will speak on attending a community of faith from a family mental health perspective. We will also be discussing future plans for the Women of Faith Lutheran. All women of the church welcome to attend!

# Pastor Derek's Parables



'Alleluia! Christ is risen! He is risen indeed! Alleluia!

We have made it to the season of Easter, the season of hope. We have made it to the season of resurrection. We journeyed through Lent together, 40 days, towards the cross, towards despair, towards suffering, towards death. We spent the last 6 weeks centering ourselves on this year's Lenten theme, Holy Living, Holy Dying, in which we explored how we might live more fully the life God intends for us and how we might prepare ourselves for the death we know we all will experience at some point.

This Lenten season we brought a lot of attention to our bodily death. We focused on facing our mortality and preparing ourselves for the inevitable, while also reminding ourselves of the hope we have in Christ that nothing can separate us from God's love, not even death itself. We reminded ourselves over and over again of the promise we have been given of the resurrection.

I also think it is important for us to acknowledge the very real reality that we experience many deaths in life that aren't our final bodily death. Death's that cause us to experience loss and require mourning and grief just as a death of a loved one might require of us. A few weeks ago I realized one of my plants in my office was dying. This was a plant that I received during 2020 and nurtured throughout the pandemic. It has been a spot of life and light in my office and had brought me joy as I looked at it in moments of time that were difficult. I tried my best for a couple of months to prune it up, to nurture it back to health, but to no avail. It died and there was no bringing it back. It might seem silly, but my heart broke a little as I fully realized it had died. It's just a plant after all. I can just get a new one to put in the pot.

These are things we tell ourselves though when we experience the many deaths we experience in our lives. Whether its the death of plant, the loss of a job, the loss of mobility or being unable to do things physically that we used to, the death of a relationship or friendship, these are all deaths and they demand to be named as such. They require grief and mourning just as a physical, bodily death of a loved one requires mourning. We can't just say, "It's no big deal. I should just get over this. I can just replace that plant, that relationship, that activity." We cannot bury our grief or hide our loss thinking



it will just go away. We need to name it, mourn it, grieve it, and then healing and new life can happen.

This is the amazing gift of the Easter reality we have been given in Jesus. The resurrection hope doesn't just come when we die. We can and do experience resurrection and new life all the time right now, in this lifetime. Know that God walks with us through all of the deaths we experience in life. God grieves with us, mourns with us, and cries with us. And when it's time, God creates new life amidst the reality of death, continually proving to us that death has been and will continue to be conquered.

In Christ,  
Pastor Derek



**Saturday, April 27**  
**Sertoma Community Shelter**  
**300 Riverside Park Road,**  
**Bismarck, ND**

For this year's Race for Parkinson's, Avis Pedersen will be racing in honor of Allen Pedersen. If you would like to give to the Bismarck Parkinson's Support Group in honor of Allen, you can mail a check to:

Bismarck Parkinson's Support Group  
PO Box 4174  
Bismarck, ND 58502

You can find more information at  
[www.bismarckparkinsons.wordpress.com](http://www.bismarckparkinsons.wordpress.com)  
or [www.facebook.com/  
bismarckparkinsonssupportgroup](http://www.facebook.com/bismarckparkinsonssupportgroup)

# STAFF EMAILS

**Need to reach one of our staff?  
Emails can be found below!**

**Faith Lutheran's General Email**

[faith.bisfaith@gmail.com](mailto:faith.bisfaith@gmail.com)

**Derek Harkins**

Senior Pastor

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**Sylvia Bull**

Associate Pastor

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**Cheryl Johnson**

Office Manager and Financials

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**Caitlin McCleary**

Communications/Administrative Assistant

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**Kenny Opsal**

Director of Education and Youth

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**Janine Johannes**

Music Coordinator

[janine.bisfaith@gmail.com](mailto:janine.bisfaith@gmail.com)

YOU ARE INVITED TO THE

# Confirmation Luncheon

SUNDAY, APRIL 28

12:15 PM

FELLOWSHIP HALL

Please join us after the 11am Service for the Confirmation Luncheon as we celebrate and support the young people in our congregation taking the next step in their faith journey!



## Ring, Ring!

We are moving forward on creating a new Church Directory! As part of this process, members of our Congregational Life Committee will be calling members in our database to verify their current information. Please expect a call from someone on the Committee over the next few months. Thank you for helping us verify your information!

## Knit/Crochet Group Interest Meeting



Join us on Thursday, April 18, 2024 at 7pm to discuss interest in a Knit/Crochet Group. Feel free to bring a project you are working on! For more information, you can talk to Caitlin McCleary in the office, or email [communications.bisfaith@gmail.com](mailto:communications.bisfaith@gmail.com)

# Potato/Chili Feed

## Thank You and Total

Another successful potato/chili feed in the books and what a good one. We served 112 plates and an estimated 50 bowls of chili. Thanks to your generosity, we raised \$2038.00 for the Camp of the Cross. A huge thank you to all who provided the delicious chili and always remarkable selection of bars. Our quality control group was kept very busy with sampling.







# Church School News



Thanks for the donations for church school tables! We have received the quarterly giving plus many substantial gifts. They will be updated soon.

We will be giving this quarter for our sister churches in the Central African Republic.

Each year, the Women of Faith sponsor each camper that goes to the Camp of the Cross by paying 40% of the camper's registration! Please let Camp of the Cross know you are members of Faith Lutheran during registration, or call Camp of the Cross directly. They will send us a report of how many of our members registered, and we'll take it from there!

## Youth News

Notices have been sent out. We are accepting senior pictures and plans for our senior presentation in May. Please send as soon as possible.

We will be hosting a Murder Mystery Dinner called "Night At the Disco" on Saturday, April 6 starting at 6:00! More information can be found on the front of the newsletter.

### Acolyting Schedule

#### Sundays

8:30- Nathaniel Capan

11:00- Hadley Steiner

#### Wednesdays

7:00 - Acolyte- Ellie

Mickelson/Bentlee Schock (3/10)

Kennedy Shelquist/Lucy Serr (17/24)

#### Tech Assistant:

John Mickelson

### Scholarship Opportunity!



All students who are active members at Faith Lutheran Church may apply for a college tuition scholarship for the 2024-2025 school year. Whether a graduating high school student or already at college, head out to our Faith website

[www.faithbismarck.com/forms](http://www.faithbismarck.com/forms) and email the completed form and a current transcript to the office [faith.bisfaith@gmail.com](mailto:faith.bisfaith@gmail.com) by the May 1st deadline.

# Footsteps of Paul Tour



"The Eastern North Dakota Synod ELCA's Bishop Tessa Moon Leiseth and our own Bishop Craig Schweitzer are leading a tour of Greece and Turkey in October 2024. We invite you to join us on this journey in the footsteps of Paul.

On this life-changing adventure, we will explore the land of Greece and Turkey as the history of the New Testament comes alive. We will retrace the voyages of Paul and learn about the early church and the spread of the Gospel. Our journey will begin in Athens and Corinth, then into Ephesus, as we make our way to Patmos."



For more information and to register, please visit <https://www.eliastours.com/tours/western-north-dakota-synod-footsteps-of-paul-tour-with-with-bishop-craig-schweitzer>

## MISSION Focus

### APRIL: LUTHERAN WORLD RELIEF

Our focus this month is on Lutheran World Relief! Every year, our quilters make quilts to send to Lutheran World Relief, who then sends them all over the world, including to our sister churches in the Central African Republic! If you would like to help our quilters this month (or any time during the year), you can bring donations of cotton fabric. Small squares and scraps can be difficult to work with, so larger pieces only please. Thank you for your generosity!

*"Like good stewards of the manifold grace of God, serve one another with whatever gift each of you has received." - 1 Peter 4:10*



# April 2024

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<b>7</b> 8:30 Worship 9:45 5th Grade P/S Church School 11:00 Worship 4:00 Cub Scouts	<b>8</b> 7:00 AA	<b>9</b> 9:00 Quilting 2:00 Crafts 5:30 Choir 5:30 Bio Girls 5:45 Stewardship Comm 6:00 Elementary Comm 7:00 Scouts	<b>10</b> Newsletter Deadline 10:00 Bible Study 5:30 Handbells 6:00 5th Grade P/S 6:00 Church School 7:00 Worship	<b>11</b> 7:00 Ruth Circle	<b>12</b> 8:00 NA	<b>13</b>
<b>14</b> 8:30 Worship 9:45 5th Grade P/S Church School 11:00 Worship 4:00 Cub Scouts	<b>15</b> 7:00 AA	<b>16</b> 9:00 Quilting 2:00 Crafts 5:30 Choir 5:30 Bio Girls 7:00 Scouts	<b>17</b> 10:00 Bible Study 5:30 Handbells 6:00 5th Grade P/S 6:00 Church School 7:00 Worship	<b>18</b> 7:00 Knit/Crochet Group Interest Meeting	<b>19</b> 5:00 9th Grade Retreat 8:00 NA	<b>20</b>
<b>21</b> 8:30 Worship 9:45 5th Grade P/S Church School 11:00 Worship 4:00 Cub Scouts	<b>22</b> 12:30 AARP Driver Safety 7:00 AA	<b>23</b> 9:00 Quilting 2:00 Crafts 5:00 HR Comm 5:30 Choir 5:30 Bio Girls 6:00 Compass 7:00 Exec Comm 7:00 Scouts	<b>24</b> 10:00 Bible Study 5:30 Handbells 5:00 5th Grade P/S 6:00 Church School 7:00 Worship	<b>25</b>	<b>26</b> 8:00 NA	<b>27</b> 9:30 Altar Guild 1:00 WELCA
<b>28</b> 8:30 Worship 9:45 Church School 11:00 Worship 12:15 Confirmation Luncheon 4:00 Cub Scouts	<b>29</b> 7:00 AA	<b>30</b> 9:00 Quilting 2:00 Crafts 5:30 Choir 7:00 Scouts				

Faith Lutheran Church  
1402 E Avenue C  
Bismarck, ND 58501-4398  
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(701)223-2236

## Faith Lutheran Church April 2024 News and Views

# AARP DRIVER SAFETY COURSE

**MONDAY, APRIL 22**  
**12:30 - 4:30**

Take this course, taught by Allen Dockter, to learn defensive driving techniques, find out how to adjust driving to age-related changes and get a discount on your insurance. Cost is \$20 for AARP Members and \$25 for non-members. Contact the church office at (701) 223-2236 or Allen Dockter at (701) 255-3715 to register! Class must be taken every three years to receive insurance discount.

