



Faith Lutheran

1402 East Avenue C, Bismarck, ND 58501

Phone: 701-223-2236 Fax: 701-223-0485

After Hours Emergency Line: 701-595-0223

www.faithbismarck.com

News and Views

October 2025

Volume 2025, Issue 9

MISSION STATEMENT

"We are building a welcoming, nurturing faith community guided by Jesus to share the Gospel."



SCRIPTURE CIRCLES

Come share in a transformative method of studying the Bible that is accessible to all! No prior experience or knowledge needed; led by scripture teacher U.S. Jones, II.

Light supper will be served starting at 5:00 pm, study begins at 5:45pm. A free will offering will be collected, but the events are FREE.

THURSDAYS FROM 5:00-8:00PM ON:

SEPTEMBER 11 @ Lord of Life (1143 N 26th St, Bismarck)

OCTOBER 9 @ Trinity Lutheran (502 N 4th St, Bismarck)

NOVEMBER 13 @ McCabe United Methodist (1030 N 6th St, Bismarck)

DECEMBER 11 @ Location TBD

 Questions? Call 701-223-2236 for more information

FAITH LUTHERAN CHURCH CLERGY

Pastor Derek Harkins
(Fridays off)

Pastor Sylvia Bull
(Fridays off)

WORSHIP SCHEDULE

SUNDAY:

8:30am & 11am

WEDNESDAY:

7:00pm

LIVESTREAM AT

SUN 8:30am &

WED 7:00pm

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.

PIE & COFFEE DAY

**OCT
25
9AM-2PM**



Faith Lutheran Church

1402 E Ave C
Bismarck, ND 58503

Join us in the fellowship hall for:
Delicious rolls, muffins, pie & coffee (Free Will Offering for FLCW)

Soup and Sandwiches from 11:30 am to 1:30 pm (Free Will Offering for Youth)

Shopping for homemade goods (including Knoephla and Rice Pudding!), crafts, quilts and white elephant items!



FLC Executive Team

Jim Sheldon, Chair

Amy Steiner, Vice-Chair

Lyla Timm, Vice-Chair

Mark Schneider, Secretary

Billie Ann Caya, Treasurer

Pastoral Ministries

Baptisms:

Gabriel Allen Weninger

Noraya Dai Hoffmann

Funerals:

Elizabeth "Betty" Dachtler



FINANCIAL UPDATE

August General Fund:

Revenues: \$41,702.38

Expenditures: \$59,370.08

2025 Year-to-Date:

Revenues: \$390,006.47

Expenditures: \$422,655.83

STAR WORD

Reflection Question

What struggles or
challenges has your Star
Word brought up for you?
How have you faced them?

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 For additional information, call the church office at 701-223-2236

Daylight Savings Time Reminder

Don't forget to set your clocks back an
hour on Sunday, November 2!





Trick or Treat for UNICEF

On Halloween night 1950 in Philadelphia, a Sunday School class decided to ask for coins instead of candy as they went from house to house in their neighborhood. They raised \$17 (\$225 today) and donated it to the United Nations Children's Fund. The Children's Fund was established in 1946 to help children and young people whose lives were at risk – no matter what role their country played in World War II.

In 1960, when I was a 10-year-old trick-or-treater, my hometown, Hope, North Dakota, was holding their 7th consecutive Trick or Treat for UNICEF. The Hope Pioneer reported that throughout the world 55,000,000 children and mothers were receiving UNICEF aid in 87 countries.

Farm kids and city kids gathered at the Hope Auditorium where we were given black and orange badges and containers for collecting coins. The signal to start was given at 6:30 pm by the ringing of church bells and three "toots" of the creamery whistle. Throughout town the children went collecting pennies, nickels, and dimes.

At 8:00 pm we returned to the Auditorium for the party which was sponsored by the local businesses. The Pioneer said "Please do not favor the trick or treat callers with goodies it makes it difficult for them when they come to the party." Treats were provided and games, like bobbing for apples, were played.

The October 26, 1961 Hope Pioneer said "Halloween was a day when masks were worn to scare away evil spirits...today American children are wearing masks to help combat the evils of mass disease and malnutrition among other children..."

For many causes, the people of Faith Lutheran have responded with grace and generosity when asked to help. When was the last time we responded to a cause that was identified by our children? If our children come to us wearing masks asking for dollars to help other children, how will we respond?

Bennett R. Kubischta

September 3, 2025, 7:14 pm



Library Link

by LeAnn Severson

The Protestant Reformation began in Wittenberg, Germany on October 31, 1517 when Martin Luther, a teacher and a monk, published a document he called 95 THESES. This writing ranks as the most important text of the Reformation in impact. The book is available in our church library for you to read and study.

I encourage you to visit our church library to see the display of materials pertaining to Martin Luther and the Reformation. Among those are LUTHER the REFORMER, the best-selling biography that provides a great resource for delving into Luther's story. The WIT of MARTIN LUTHER gives insight into his sense of humor. MARTIN LUTHER and the CALLED LIFE explores how the reformer lived out his own calling.

DAUGHTER of the REFORMATION is a historical perspective of the life and times of Katherine Von Bora Luther, the wife of Martin Luther.

PAPA LUTHER, written by Daniel Maurer, former intern here at Faith Lutheran, is written in a style that youth would understand but adults would enjoy as well. A children's book about Luther is also available as is the DVD entitled LUTHER.

Thank you Guest Musicians!



On Sunday, September 14th during Coffee Hour, we were able to celebrate all the musicians that have helped provide music during worship as we searched for our new Music Coordinator! Thanks to Colleen Reinhardt, Janine Johannes, Linda Lueneburg, Warren Granfor, Mary Schneider and Sounds of Faith for accompaniment, and Judy Kubischta for both accompaniment and helping to coordinate our guest musicians!

Pie & Coffee Day

Mark your calendars -----OCTOBER 25th is Pie & Coffee Day! 9 am to 2 pm

This is the day to participate in some great fellowship with others from our community as well as a chance to purchase some great items.

Throughout the day, enjoy a piece of pie / muffin / roll with a cup of coffee. There will be a baked goods area where you can purchase a variety of homemade baked goodies. And of course, this will include knoepla and a **new addition --- Swedish Rice Pudding.**

Look for the new hand crafted items and browse through the White Elephant rooms. And of course, the youth will be serving homemade soups and sandwiches over the noon hour....

Set up for this fun day will begin on Thursday, October 23rd. So please wait until this day to bring your slightly used items. (There is no room at the church to store the items prior to this day.) Please no clothes or shoes.

Just like any other great event, **many volunteers are needed.** Please consider adding your name to the schedule that you can find on the entry counter... There are various opportunities and shifts available.

Knoepla making will take place on Thursday, October 16 at 9:30 am.... No prior experience is needed in creating these coveted items.

Mark your calendars for these special days and come join in the fun....
If you have any questions or suggestions, please contact Connie Isaak (258-2025)

STAFF EMAILS

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

Faith Lutheran's General Email

faith.bisfaith@gmail.com

Derek Harkins

Senior Pastor
derek.bisfaith@gmail.com

Sylvia Bull

Associate Pastor
sylvia.bisfaith@gmail.com

Cheryl Johnson

Office Manager and Financials
cheryl.bisfaith@gmail.com

Caitlin McCleary

Communications/Administrative Assistant
communications.bisfaith@gmail.com

Kenny Opsal

Director of Education and Youth
kenny.bisfaith@midconetwork.com

Dmytro Somkin

Music Coordinator
dmytro.bisfaith@gmail.com

Pastor Sylvia's Parables



"[The peoples] will beat their swords into plowshares, and their spears into pruning hooks; nation shall not lift up sword against nation, neither shall they learn war any more." - Isaiah 2:4

"They will not hurt or destroy on all my holy mountain; for the earth will be full of the knowledge of the LORD as waters cover the sea." - Isaiah 11:9

"God makes wars cease to the end of the earth; he breaks the bow, and shatters the spear; he burns the shields with fire." Psalm 46:9

Dear friends in Christ,

Perhaps, like me, you are weary of what feels like ever more frequent reports of violence in our country and around the world. Perhaps, like me, your morning paper, evening news report, or internet news feed is full of images of the destruction of bombs, the fear and pain of yet another mass shooting, or the horror of attacks of politically-motivated violence. Perhaps your heart, like mine, feels sick as you read the latest headline. And God forbid if you waded into the morass of comments on any online news article, where insults, derision, and violent language abound.

What are we, as followers of Jesus, to say and do about such things?

Pray.

Come before God with your fear and despair and doubt and anger. Join with the psalmist in asking, "How long, O Lord?!"

Repent.

As Martin Luther wrote in The 95 Theses, "When our Lord and Master Jesus Christ said, "Repent" (Mt 4:17), he willed the entire life of believers to be one of repentance." Our life as disciples is meant to be a life of repentance, of turning around, of recognizing our own role in the harm which abounds in our relationships and communities. Ask yourself, as I am: where does *my own* language reflect our culture of violence? Do I talk about people I disagree with in demeaning terms, as if they are stupid or less-than or deserving of harm? Am I willing to change that pattern in my own life? Can I stand up to that kind of talk in my circles, sharing my own journey of repentance and calling those around me to the same?

Live out our mission.

Here at Faith Lutheran, we believe that God has called us to "build a welcoming, nurturing faith community guided by Jesus to share the Gospel." Live into that calling, dear people of God. Following the example of Jesus, welcome those who are not like you. Nurture

community in every aspect of your life, reaching out to new people by getting to know them - their values, fears, hopes, and dreams. Share the Gospel - the good news that God comes into our world of fear and pain to suffer alongside us and transform our weapons of violence into tools of growth, to make the peaceable Kingdom of God more and more abundantly present in this hurting world.

At our first confirmation class of this year, we read Psalm 46 together and asked our students to reflect on what parts of this psalm were good news to them. Several of the groups mentioned verse 9, quoted above, about God making wars cease to the end of the earth. This is our hope and our good news: that Christ comes as the Prince of Peace, and that we, as part of his Body on earth today, are called to be people of peace. May we pray, repent, and live according to that call.

In Christ,
Pastor Sylvia

Times of civic strife can be extremely trying on our mental and spiritual health. If you are struggling, please reach out to Pastor Derek or myself so that we can connect you with sources of support and help. We also have resources for talking with your kids about difficult topics like gun violence, war, and loving our neighbors. You are not alone. We are in this together.

Women's Cluster Meeting

Women of Faith, please join us for our 2025 WELCA Fall Cluster Gathering at Peace Lutheran Church in Lincoln on Saturday, October 11th from 11:30am to 3pm! The day will consist of lunch, devotion and worship music, discussion of Cluster business, and an informative presentation by Gregory Loftesnes of the MNND Alzheimer's Association. We will also be gathering a monetary offering, love gifts consisting of personal care items, cleaning or laundry items for the Community Cupboard in PLC, and a book exchange! Cost of lunch is \$10 a person. Contact Connie Isaak with any questions! Sign-ups available in the Gathering Place.

Tree Memorial

We are so thankful for the gift of a new Linden tree to beautify our grounds, given in memory of Ray and LaVern Frank by their friends and family. Scott Toso (custodial staff) and Ray Utter (Property Task Group Chair) planted the new tree. Two of Ray and LaVern's daughters (Shari Johnson and Kari Schmidt) were able to be present for the planting as well. You can stop by and see it located near the northwest corner of our lot. We are grateful for the memory of these saints of our congregation and for the blessing of this new tree!



New Member Orientation and Installation

New to our community? We would love to officially welcome you! Please join us on for our New Member Orientation and/or New Member Installation. Call the front office at (701) 223-2236 to let us know you are interested!

New Member Orientation:
Wednesday, October 15th at 6pm
or
Sunday, October 19th at 9:45am

New Member Installation:
During Services on
Wednesday, October 22nd (7pm),
or Sunday, October 26th (8:30am or
11am)

Heart Fund

In the past month, our community has been shaken by ICE raids here in Bismarck. More than twenty of our neighbors have already been deported, and many more have been arrested or remain detained. While the headlines focus on the numbers, the greater weight falls on the families left behind. Spouses are suddenly without partners. Children are waking up without parents. Households are facing fear, grief, and the question of how to survive tomorrow.

As shepherds, we know the heart of Jesus is for the broken, the vulnerable, and the overlooked. Scripture reminds us that when one part of the body suffers, we all suffer (1 Corinthians 12:26). Right now, the body of Christ in Bismarck is suffering. This is a moment for us to respond with compassion and action.

To meet these urgent needs, **Bismarck Global Neighbors has established the Heart Fund, a benevolence fund dedicated to supporting families directly impacted by these raids.** These gifts will be used for practical, life-sustaining help for those suddenly thrust into crisis, such as essentials like food, rent, utilities, and childcare. **Donations can be given directly to Global Neighbors** by mailing a check made out to "Bismarck Global Neighbors" with "Heart Fund" in the memo line to their office at 206 E. Broadway. Bismarck, ND 58501, or by using our website, www.bismarckglobalneighbors.org/donate, to donate online. All donations will be held and distributed locally, with accountability and transparency, through Bismarck Global Neighbors as we work directly with the affected families. Please also pray for these families and for our community to embody Christ's love in this moment. With gratitude and hope - *Jasmine Tosseth-Smith, Executive Director of Bismarck Global Neighbors*

MISSION Focus



OCTOBER: TRACY'S SANCTUARY HOUSE

Tracy's Sanctuary House is a non-profit that provides temporary sanctuary for out-of-town families during a time when their loved one is facing a medical emergency or life-threatening crisis. They focus on giving families a place of privacy, comfort, and compassion during an extremely difficult time in their lives. This month, we would like to collect gift cards (gas, WalMart, Target, grocery) labelled with the amount, stamps, thank you cards, Kleenex, disinfectant wipes/sprays and household cleaners, to help in their mission.

"Bear one another's burdens, and in this way you will fulfill the law of Christ."

- Galatians 6:2



Church School News



Rally Day was amazing! Lots of familiar faces have returned. Also, a big welcome to lots of new faces downstairs. We will be collecting first quarter offerings for Lutheran World Hunger.

Confirmation News

Mentor Training is Oct 1 @ 5:15 PM. Mentor/Youth meeting will follow training.

Youth News

We are excited to take Middle and High School Youth to LYO this year! High School LYO is scheduled for Oct 16 1pm to Oct 17 2:30 PM. It will be located in Dickinson.

Middle School LYO is scheduled for Oct 17 6:00 PM to Oct 18 2:30 PM. It will be located in Dickinson.

October Acolyte Schedule

Sundays

8:30 - Open

11:00 - Nathaniel Capan

Wednesdays

7:00 - Hayden Berquist / Brooklynn Keller

Tech Assistant - Tavyn Carson / Easton Schriock

Papa's Pumpkin Patch



It's pumpkin patch time! **Saturday, October 4th is Faith Family Day at Papa's Pumpkin Patch.** We have Shelter 1 reserved from 3p-6pm, where we will be offering **food and beverage. Free Admission passes** are available to pick up at the church office. Once you sign up, you will receive your passes! We will also have the church bus available for those that cannot drive. Hope to see you all there!

October 2025

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			1 Acolyte Training 10:00 Bible Study 5:00 Mentor Training 5:30 Handbells 5:30 BLAST Meal 6:00 Church School & Confirmation 7:00 Worship	2 9:00 Esther Circle 9:00 Men of Faith	3 8:00 NA	4 Faith Family Day at Papa's Pumpkin Patch
	5 Acolyte Training 8:30 Worship 9:45 Church School 11:00 Worship 4:00 Cub Scouts	7 9:00 Quilting 2:00 Crafts 7:00 Scouts	8 10:00 Bible Study 5:30 Handbells 6:00 Church School & Confirmation 7:00 Worship	9 2:00 Knit & Crochet Group 5:00 Scripture Circle (Trinity) 7:00 Ruth Circle	10 Newsletter Deadline 8:00 NA	11
	12 8:30 Worship 9:45 4 th Grade P/S 9:45 Church School 11:00 Worship	14 9:00 Quilting 2:00 Crafts 5:15 HR Committee 6:00 Elementary Comm. 7:00 Scouts	15 No Church School 10:00 Bible Study 1:30 Edgewood Service 5:30 Handbells 6:00 New Member Orientation 7:00 Worship	16 LYO 9:30 Knoephla Making Day	17 LYO 8:00 NA	18 LYO Serving the Banquet
	19 No Church School 8:30 Worship 9:45 New Member Orientation 11:00 Worship	21 9:00 Quilting 2:00 Crafts 6:00 Stewardship Committee 7:00 Scouts	22 10:00 Bible Study 5:30 Handbells 6:00 4 th Grade P/S 6:00 Church School & Confirmation 7:00 Worship	23 6:00 Knit & Crochet Group	24 5:45 Improv Workshop 8:00 NA	25 Pie and Coffee Day
	26 8:30 Worship 9:45 4 th Grade P/S 9:45 Church School 11:00 Worship 4:00 Cub Scouts	28 9:00 Quilting 2:00 Crafts 7:00 Scouts	29 10:00 Bible Study 5:30 Handbells 6:00 4 th Grade P/S 6:00 Church School & Confirmation 7:00 Worship	30 6:00 Compass Group 7:00 Exec. Committee	31 8:00 NA	
	27 5:00 Altar Guild 7:00 AA					

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

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ALL SAINTS' DAY

LUMINARIA WALK

SUNDAY, NOV. 2, 6PM-7PM

Join us in the Sanctuary for a brief candlelight prayer service, as we remember those who have died in the past year. Prayer service will begin at 6pm. Luminaria walk will be open for personal prayer until 7pm.

Submit names of loved ones who died in the past year using the sign-up sheet in the Gathering Place, commenting on the Facebook event, or calling the office at (701) 223-2236.

