



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

November

Volume 2023, Issue 11

## MISSION STATEMENT

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

## ALL SAINTS' DAY

# LUMINARIA WALK

SUNDAY, NOV. 5, 6PM-7PM

Join us in the church 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.

Sign-up sheets to submit names of loved ones lost in the past year coming soon.



## 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.

Please join us for our annual

# COMMUNITY THANKSGIVING WORSHIP

*pie & social*

WEDNESDAY, NOV. 22

7:00 pm

Faith Lutheran Church  
1402 E Ave C, Bismarck

**Featured speaker is Ron Walters from Great Plains Food Bank. All offerings will benefit their mission. Bring beans, peanut butter, or canned meat to donate!**

Hosted in partnership by St. George's Episcopal Church, Bismarck United Church of Christ, Lord of Life Lutheran, Lutheran Church of the Cross, Faith Lutheran, and McCabe United Methodist



### FLC Executive Team

Jim Sheldon, Chair  
Amy Steiner, Vice-Chair  
Lyla Timm, Vice-Chair  
Mark Schneider, Secretary  
Matthew Nygard, Treasurer

### Pastoral Ministries

#### *Funerals:*

Sally Hanson

#### *Baptisms:*

Jackson Traiser  
Redd Deyle

#### *Weddings:*

Ashley Dockter & Chris Wolf  
Shelby Wittenberg & Joe  
VonWahlde



### **FINANCIAL UPDATE**

#### September General

#### Fund:

Revenues: \$42,498.89

Expenditures: \$45,007.35

#### 2023 To Date:

Revenues: \$413,052.03

Expenditures: \$426,390.03

# Star Word Reflection Question



How has your Star Word  
inspired thankfulness in you  
throughout the year?

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 **Endowment**, in memory of Kyle Kessler.

For **General Fund**, in memory of Kyle Kessler and Victor Sprecher.

For **Church School**, in memory of Kyle Kessler.

For **Sunshine Fund**, in memory of Kyle Kessler

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

**Friends in**



My Friends in Faith,

Soon we will be gathering around tables to celebrate the holiday of Thanksgiving. The table in our house has been in Judy's family for about 70 years. First in her mother's house for a half century it now has been in her house for 20 years. Simple and sturdy it is a table that a young farmer could afford in the early 1950s.

The people who have sat around this table were born in three different centuries. Their conversations and stories were captured by the table and are held within its wood. When I sit in solitude I can imagine and hear those stories. Stories about the farm and children, their towns and their churches, school and sports, and prayers of thanks for the meals they were about to eat.

Judy's table has been confined to buildings. The table of the Church is not confined to the altar. It is not confined to the church building. The table of the church extends out of the building. It is each of us in our daily lives as we reach out to help those who cannot help us.

As you gather around your Thanksgiving table this month, take time to reflect on those who have sat around your table and the other tables that you have sat around. You will remember their stories. You will remember the help they gave you. And you will remember how thankful you are.

Bennett R. Kubischta

10 October 2023, 8:50am



## **Library Link**

by LeAnn Severson

North Dakota became a state on November 2, 1889. That anniversary reminds me of all the books available in our church library with a North Dakota theme, setting, or author.

In the fiction section, Leif Enger uses a ND setting for his book, PEACE LIKE A RIVER. Roxanne Henke, an author who lives in Wishek, used a fictional ND town for her Coming Home to Brewster series. And, of course, Lauraine Snelling's Red River of the North series and many of her stand alone books take place in North Dakota settings.

COUNTRY-FIED is a compilation of stories about Dakota country and small town people. These stories will bring back fond memories for many of us. Books related to Germans from Russia history, Norwegian heritage and Jewish settlers in ND will be of interest, as well.

Children will enjoy reading the books written by North Dakota authors during this month.

Many of these books will be on display in the library during November. Come into the library and check them out!

# Men of Faith

The Men of Faith will be hosting an AED and First Aid Training, on Thursday, 2 November at 9:00 AM. This event will be provided through the assistance of the North Dakota Safety Council and is being made available to all within the congregation. Please plan on joining this educational opportunity.



## Thank You!

Heaps and heaps of thank you's to the Rice Pudding Committee, with their most generous donation to the baptismal chest project. Not only does this program provide a faith connection with those young families involved, it also allows the Men's Group another fellowship opportunity via, saw dust, glue and stain/varnish. What could be better ?

# 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@midconetwork.com

#### **Caitlin (Angermeyer) McCleary**

Communications/Administrative Assistant

communications.bisfaith@gmail.com

#### **Kenny Opsal**

Director of Education and Youth

kenny.bisfaith@midconetwork.com

#### **Janine Johannes**

Music Coordinator

janine.bisfaith@gmail.com

# Congregational Meeting

Join us on Sunday, December 10 at 9:45 for a Congregational Meeting. We will be discussing the budget, electing new committee chairs and members, and discussing our vision as a church!



# Celebration of Lights



Mental Health America of North Dakota & Federation of Families for Children's Mental Health, invite you to participate in the **39th annual Tree of Hope tree lighting ceremony on Thursday, November 30th. We will start the festivities at 5pm at McCabe United Methodist Church (1030 N 6th St, Bismarck, ND 58501) with refreshments and speeches, then we will move to the tree lighting ceremony near the Governor's Residence (at the corner of North 4th Street and East Boulevard Avenue).** Help us to make a difference across North Dakota by joining us at the "Celebration of Lights" as we light the Tree of Hope.

Since 1985 The Tree of Hope has **served as a beacon to remind us that the stigma toward mental health still exists and so many remain in darkness because of this. To help erase the stigma and support the need for continued advocacy we are lighting this tree for those who struggle, especially during the holiday season.**

Your participation supports our work to promote mental health and wellness for children and adults. To support healthier lives and stronger communities, **we welcome you to purchase a light or multiple lights on the Tree of Hope.** You can also purchase lights as a memorial for someone to honor their memory. Each person you honor will receive a personal card recognizing your gift and is a wonderful gesture to start off the holiday season in the spirit of sharing and caring.

Be a part of a brighter and healthier tomorrow, by joining us for the "Celebration of Lights" on November 30th! **To make a donation to Mental Health America of North Dakota or stay informed about the event, please visit our website at: <https://www.mhand.org/> and <https://www.facebook.com/NDcelebrationoflights>**

Matthew McCleary,  
Deputy Director  
Mental Health America of ND  
ND Federation of Families for Children's Mental Health



# Pastor Derek's Parables

Grace and peace to you, sisters and brothers in Christ!

“Remember your manners. Say ‘please’ and ‘thank you.’ Ask if there’s anything you can do to help. Pick up after yourselves.”

These are all statements that I remember my mother saying to me growing up anytime I was going over to a friend’s house, or someone else’s home. Even if we were going to a large family gathering or birthday party I would be reminded to “use my manners.”



Recently Pastor Sylvia, Lisa Bennett, and I attended a day-long workshop from ELCA Bishop Craig Satterlee on Testimony and how we as followers of Jesus might practice and get more comfortable sharing the story of Jesus with others. During that event, in response to a question that was asked about how the church can be more hospitable to visitors and those who weren’t connected to the church, Bishop Satterlee said, “The church as a whole needs to be reminded to use its manners.” Stories were then shared from many experiences such as visitors being asked to move because they were in someone else’s pew, or people just being ignored, or people being asked to leave worship based on appearance, or new ideas or thoughts being shot down right away because “That’s not how we do things around here.”

I think most churches hear these stories and know what people are talking about, but say, “I know that happens at some churches, but that doesn’t happen at my church. My church is very welcoming.” The honest truth is every church ever has thought they were a welcoming church. The fact of the matter is we all get into our routines and our comfort zones and while we think we are welcoming we aren’t really being welcoming. I think we often believe that if we aren’t being unwelcoming or rude then we are being welcoming. But to be welcoming we have to be intentional. We must intentionally remember our manners. Intentionally welcome guests or visitors who are in our midst. We must intentionally put others and their needs ahead of our own. One of the most difficult things for those of us who are already a part of “the church” to remember is that the church doesn’t exist for “Me” and what I want. At its simplest, the church exists for others. It exists to continue to share God’s story and God’s love with all those that it comes in contact with.

At Faith Lutheran, we have discerned and named in our mission statement that God has called us to be “a welcoming, nurturing faith community that is guided by Jesus and shares the Gospel.” What would it mean for us to be a more welcoming, nurturing faith community? How would it look to “remember our manners” a little more when we gather together?

In Christ,  
Pastor Derek

# Faith Lutheran Choir Practice!



All those who love to sing, please come join us for choir practice, every Tuesday at 5:30pm in the church sanctuary. Everyone is welcome, and we look forward to seeing you there! If you have any questions, contact Janine Johannes, our music leader, by calling the office at (701) 223-2236, emailing [janine.bisfaith@gmail.com](mailto:janine.bisfaith@gmail.com) or stopping by!

## *Faith Lutheran Cookbook*

Thank you for your submissions! We are pleased to announce that our cookbook will be here in time for Christmas, a perfect gift to give to loved ones! Look out for more information in our December newsletter!

## Newsletter Mailing Update!

We are working on updating our mailing list for newsletters! **Starting in January, we are moving to an opt-in mailed newsletter.** We are hoping to get a better idea of how people would like to view the newsletter from month to month, and hoping to cut down on printing and mailing costs by seeing who prefers a mailed copy, and who can receive the newsletter using other methods.

**If you would like to put your household on the mailing list, or transition over to picking up a printed copy, receiving an email with a PDF of the newsletter, or looking online, please let us know!** We would like to know how many paper copies to leave out toward the end of the prior month.

**You can call the office at (701) 223-2236, email [communications.bisfaith@gmail.com](mailto:communications.bisfaith@gmail.com), or stop in the office by December 15th to let us know what you would prefer! We will also have sign-up sheets in the church if you would like to let us know that way.**

Thank you for letting us know your preference on receiving the newsletter!





# Church School News



Church school has been going great! We have done a great job learning the Fruits of the Spirit. We are raising money this quarter for South Central High School.

We are looking for donations to replace the chairs in the church school classrooms! All donations will be in honor of Barb Holwegner, who contributed greatly to our Church School program for years! If you would like more information, please contact Kenny.

## Youth News

National Youth Gathering is July 16th-20th 2024 in New Orleans. All current 8th Graders to seniors will be eligible to go. As of now we have 7 youth who have chosen to go. They will be accompanied by Kenny, Brooke Sundvor, and Pastor Derek.

In November we will be doing a service project with the youth. We will send information through the blast system. If you know you are interested contact Kenny.

**ALL AGES** are invited to join us for a Caroling event! More details coming soon!

### HIGH SCHOOL COFFEE HOUR

Join us the first and third Wednesday of the month for coffee hour!

Get to know other high school age people.

We will pay for drinks!

Please contact Kenny to ask questions, or to let him know you are coming!

Phone: Call (701) 223-2236 and ask for Kenny

Email: [kenny.bisfaith@midconetwork.com](mailto:kenny.bisfaith@midconetwork.com)

1st and 3rd Wednesday

8:00-9:00

Starbucks on State Street

2124 N 12th Street



### Acolyting Schedule

#### Sundays

8:30- Logan Kuntz

11:00- Aidan Kotsick, Teagan  
Wagner

#### Wednesdays

Noah Buckholz, Riley Hoff,  
Easton Schriock

#### Acolyte Assistant:

Tavyn Carson, Reed Romsaas



# PIE & COFFEE DAY

Another fun Pie & Coffee Day has passed. It was nice to see the fellowship happening over that piece of pie and cup of coffee. This event could not happen without the help of many, many folks. Thanks to all who moved tables, unpacked and repacked white elephant items, made lefse and knoephla, worked in the kitchen, washed dishes, cleaned up tables, cashiered, and made purchases. The money raised will help many local community and Lutheran World Relief missions as well as supporting the women in seminary. The Faith Women also encourage Camp of the Cross attendees by paying 40% of each camper's registration.

Job well done!

## FLC Crafters Ornaments

The Faith Lutheran crafters have created a Christmas tree ornament that can be purchased to memorialize a loved one or to honor a family member or someone special to you. The ornaments will hang on the church tree during the Christmas season. When removed from the tree in January, they will be returned to the purchaser as a keepsake. These ornaments will be available for purchase at \$5 each between services on November 19, 26 and December 3. You can also call the church office to reserve them. The proceeds from the sale will be given to a mission or need within the church and/or community yet to be determined.

## Ministry on the Margins Coffee House

A direct message from Sister Kathleen Atkinson, Executive Director and Founder...

*'Prior to Covid' ...*

"If you were outside or stranded for whatever emergency reason in the middle of the night, you could have gone into Walmart or Cashwise, Perkins or Denny's, even an open gas station, and been offered an emergency phone or a bathroom; you know, it's that's simple.

However, things have changed. If you had been outside last night, you wouldn't have found any of those places open. In freezing winter or summer storm, you would be stuck outside without safety. Collaborating with law enforcement and city leaders, Ministry on the Margins opened a "Coffee House" to serve as a place of rest and safety throughout the night. We expected 10-15 people a night as a pilot project. Almost immediately we saw that projection was low; we now serve 50-55 people a night. Ministry on the Margins welcomes ALL people. They may be under the influence of alcohol or drugs; they may have active

mental health issues or a felony past, but they are welcomed into our place of safety and rest.

MOTM Coffee House has two staff who serve as hospitality coordinators, serving food and coffee. I think the most important thing we offer is availability. Every week, 3 or 4 people come in that need to go to an emergency room. Police bring people to the Coffee House rather than jail for detox. Our team have blessedly been able to save a couple of lives by the use of Narcan. We have served as a safe place for people needing to leave an abusive situation. We are called 'home' by people that have none.

Ministry on the Margins Coffee House is that simple and that profound - it is welcome, safety and rest for all who are lost in the darkness of the night.

**Coffee House - Hours of operation:** 10:00PM to 6:00AM every day of the week

\*Hours are extended during winter season beginning November 1 - 10:00PM to 8:00AM

**Coffee House current needs are:** Decaffeinated Coffee, Coffee filters, Nonperishable snack items, Sugar, Coffee creamer (nonperishable/powdered), Pillowcases, Pillow protectors, Pillows, Blankets, Latex gloves (any size, but most commonly used is large), Kitchen garbage bags (13 gallon), Large garbage bags (50 gallon), and Laundry detergent. Monetary donations also welcome!

\*You can also donate food items that are perishable **if dropped off in person at Ministry on the Margins.** Call 701-223-6315 Monday-Friday 8-5 to insure someone is there to accept your kind donation.\*

# MISSION

## Focus



**NOVEMBER:**

**MINISTRY ON THE  
MARGINS COFFEE HOUSE**

MOTM Coffee House provides a place of rest and safety for those in need throughout the night. They welcome in ALL people, and serve food and coffee to those spending the night with them. Some of their biggest needs are decaffeinated coffee, nonperishable snack items, sugar, and nonperishable/powdered coffee creamer. Your donations will help a ministry that serves those that are often forgotten. Thank you!

*"How does God's love abide in anyone who has the world's goods and sees a brother or sister in need and yet refuses help? Little children, let us love, not in word or speech, but in truth and action." - 1 John 3:17-18*

# November 2023



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<b>5 Daylight Savings Ends</b> 8:30 Worship 9:45 Church School 11:00 Worship 4:00 Cub Scouts 6:00 Luminaria Walk	<b>6 7:00 AA</b>	<b>7 9:00 Quilting</b> 2:00 Crafts 5:30 Choir 6:00 Elementary Comm 7:00 Scouts 7:00 Sounds of Faith	<b>8 No Church School</b> 10:00 Bible Study 5:30 Handbells 7:00 Worship	<b>9</b>	<b>10 Newsletter Deadline</b> 8:00 NA	<b>11 Veteran's Day</b>
<b>12 No Church School</b> 8:30 Worship 11:00 Worship 4:00 Cub Scouts	<b>13 Church Office Closed (Veteran's Day)</b> 7:00 AA	<b>14 9:00 Quilting</b> 2:00 Crafts 5:00 HR Comm 5:30 Choir 6:00 Compass Comm 7:00 Exec Comm 7:00 Ruth Circle 7:00 Scouts 7:00 Sounds of Faith	<b>15 10:00 Bible Study</b> 5:30 Handbells 6:00 Church School 7:00 Worship 8:00 HS Coffee Hour	<b>16</b>	<b>17 8:00 NA</b>	<b>18 9:30 Altar Guild</b>
<b>19 8:30 Worship</b> 9:45 Church School 11:00 Worship 4:00 Cub Scouts	<b>20 7:00 AA</b>	<b>21 9:00 Quilting</b> 2:00 Crafts 5:30 Choir 7:00 Scouts	<b>22 No Church School</b> <b>No Bible Study</b> 7:00 Community Thanksgiving Eve Service	<b>23 Thanksgiving Church Office Closed</b>	<b>24 Church Office Closed</b> 8:00 NA	<b>25</b>
<b>26 No Church School</b> 8:30 Worship 11:00 Worship	<b>27 5:45 Stewardship</b> 7:00 AA	<b>28 9:00 Quilting</b> 2:00 Crafts 5:30 Choir 7:00 Scouts 7:00 Sounds of Faith	<b>29 10:00 Bible Study</b> 5:30 Handbells 6:00 Christmas Program Practice 7:00 Worship	<b>30</b>		

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ELECTRONIC SERVICE REQUESTED  
November - 2023



## November News and Views

It's that time again!  
Faith Lutheran Church's Annual  
*Cookie Walk*  
Save the Date!  
More info coming soon!  
📅 Saturday, December 9th  
📍 1402 E Ave C, Bismarck, ND 58501

**MEN OF FAITH  
CHRISTMAS  
DINNER**  
*Save the Date*  
Thursday,  
December 7th