



THE MESSENGER

*For God so loved the world, that he gave his only Son,
that whoever believes in him should not perish
but have eternal life. John 3:16*

THE NEWSLETTER OF FAITH LUTHERAN CHURCH

May 2026

*Faith's Mission is to reach people, young and old, who need Christ
in their lives, and to help them know, love and serve Christ.*

In the name of the risen and living God, Jesus Christ, to those who are called to be saints of Faith Lutheran Church and who call on the name of our Lord: Grace and peace to you.

May is a hopeful month. The grass returns, trees begin to leaf out, gardens are planned, and people start looking ahead to summer. In Minnesota, May feels like a deep breath after a long winter. You can almost hear creation stretching.

That makes May a fitting month for Christians to remember how often the Lord works through quiet growth. We usually prefer instant response. We want quick answers, strong certainty, and visible results. But much of God's work in our lives happens more like slow-growth seedlings than fireworks.

Jesus said, "The kingdom of God is as if a man should scatter seed on the ground. He sleeps and rises night and day, and the seed sprouts and grows; he knows not how" (Mark 4:26-27). That is a good word for impatient people, and that means all of us.

We do not cause faith to grow by force of will. We do not manufacture peace by trying harder. We do not save ourselves through effort, sincerity, or improvement. The Lord gives life through his Word. He forgives sins through Christ crucified and risen. He strengthens weary hearts through the promises of the gospel. Then, in ways we often cannot measure, he brings growth.

Sometimes we are discouraged because we do not see dramatic progress in ourselves. We still battle old sins and carry old griefs. We still pray some of the same prayers. Yet the



Lord has not abandoned us. A seed under the soil looks unimpressive, but God sees more than we do.

May reminds us life can be hidden before it is visible. Roots go down before green shoots come up. In the same way, God is often doing his deepest work where we least notice it. He is teaching trust in the waiting. He is shaping patience through repetition. He is drawing us again to Jesus, not to our own strength.

As this month begins, let us give thanks for small signs of grace. Come to worship. Hear the Word. Receive what the Lord gives. Pray for faith and for the quiet confidence Jesus is alive and at work, even when growth seems slow. Spring does not arrive because we command it. It comes because he is faithful.

Your brother in the Gospel,
Pastor Scott

P.S.: Please invite one person to worship with you on Sunday. If you did, just think what would happen!

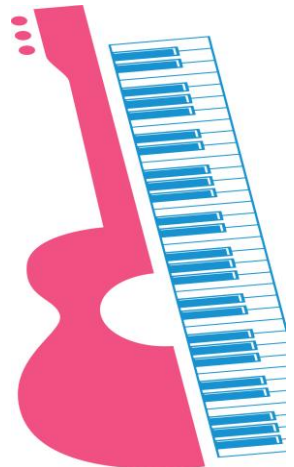
TAKING A SUMMER BREAK

Wrapping it up this month and taking a break until September:

- May 3rd – last day of Sunday school
- May 17th – last day of Sunday morning Bible study
- May 21st – last day of Women's Thursday morning Bible study

MUSICIAN WANTED

If you or someone you know would be interested in playing at Sunday Worship, let Jana or Pastor Scott know. It would be nice to be able to give Sandy a break once in a while. If you know someone who plays guitar or the piano/keyboard, please be so kind as to ask them if they would help out on Sundays. Thank you so much!



LUTHERAN PRAYERS YOU CAN USE AT HOME

A PRAYER FOR THE MORNING:

Lord God, as this new day begins, I thank you for guarding me through the night and for setting before me another day under your mercy. Govern my heart by your Holy Spirit, so I may walk in faith, speak truthfully, serve gladly, and endure patiently whatever this day brings. Keep me from pride, anger, and careless sin. Turn my eyes away from trusting myself, and fix them on Jesus, my crucified and risen Savior. Let your holy Word dwell richly in me, so my thoughts, work, and rest may be pleasing in your sight; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

A PRAYER FOR THE EVENING:

Lord God, heavenly Father, I thank you for preserving me through this day and for every undeserved kindness you have given. Where I have sinned in thought, word, or deed, grant me forgiveness for the sake of Jesus Christ alone. Where I have been anxious, remind me of your fatherly care. Where I have been weary, grant me rest. Into your hands I commend my body and soul, and all things. Let your holy angels watch over me through the night, and keep me from evil. Grant me peaceful sleep and a quiet heart, trusting not in my goodness, but in your steadfast mercy; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

LUTHERAN TIDBITS

One of the great treasures of Lutheran teaching (from the Book of Concord) is the simple confession that God works through means. That may sound like a technical phrase, but it is really good news for ordinary Christians.

We often assume that if God is going to do something powerful, it must come through a dramatic spiritual experience, a sudden inner feeling, or some unmistakable moment of personal breakthrough. But Lutheran theology points us somewhere steadier. God has chosen to deal with us through his Word and Sacraments.

The Small Catechism teaches this beautifully when it speaks of Baptism, Confession, and the Sacrament of the Altar. These are not empty religious actions. They are the ways Christ delivers what he won for sinners by his death and resurrection. Forgiveness is not left floating in the air, hoping you feel it strongly enough. God puts it into words you can hear. He attaches it to water. He gives Christ's body and blood for you to receive.

That matters because our hearts are unreliable. Some days faith feels strong. Some days it does not. Some days the conscience is calm. Some days it barks like an angry farm dog and will not let up. The comfort of Lutheran teaching is that God's grace does not depend on the temperature of our feelings. It depends on Christ and his promise.

So when you are troubled, do not look first for a better mood or a stronger spiritual moment. Go where Christ has promised to be for you. Hear the absolution. Remember your Baptism. Receive the Supper. The Lord meets sinners there, not with maybe, but with mercy.



- 2- Pete & Cindy Kissinger
- 3- Sharon Johnson
- 5- Rita Zierden
- 8- Jo Havel
- 11- Yvonne Hogie-Streich
- 11- Zachary Soriano
- 12- Stan Heinitz
- 12- Kim Landecker
- 14- Laura Brecht
- 20- Brian Marx
- 23- LaVon Johnson
- 24- Pete & Robin Schmitz
- 25- Don & Yvonne Hogie-Streich
- 28- Chuck & Jenny Bray

God bless you on your special day!

If you see a mistake or an omission, please contact the secretary so she can update the records:

763.878.2092 or
faithlutheran@tds.net.

Thanks!



Thank you so much for the prayers, food, and kindness—I truly appreciate it. And a special thank you to the kids for the sweet cards and drawings that they drew for me!

~Judy Jarmuzek

Once again, to our Faith Lutheran family, a big “thank you” to those who helped us move... again! You are all so generous, helpful, and kind. Thank you so very much! Blessings to all of you.

~Pastor Scott & Pat

Thank you to Linda Bergsten and Bob Trombley for the generous donation of the stained-glass cross in the sanctuary. It turned out so beautiful! Thank you so very much!

CHURCH COUNCIL MINUTES

The council meeting got rescheduled to Thursday, April 23rd, after the newsletter deadline. The minutes will be printed in June’s newsletter and posted on the bulletin board in the narthex.

VISIT WITH HOLLOWAYS

Former pastor, Ed Holloway, and his wife, Marsha, will be in Minnesota visiting for a few days in May. We have a time where we can visit with them on Wednesday, May 20th at 3 PM at church. Anybody is welcome to come.

GROWING IN GOD'S word



Try this craft as a reminder that we need to continue to grow in God's Word.

What you need:

- Small terra cotta pot and plate
- Acrylic paints (various colors)
- Paper plate
- Potting soil (enough to fill the pot)
- Small inside plant or packet of seeds
- Newspaper or paper
- Paintbrush
- Cup of water
- Permanent black marker



What you do:

1. Spread some newspaper out on a table for your working area.
2. Squeeze the paint colors that you wish to use onto your paper plate.
3. Paint designs on the pot and plate.
4. When the pot is dry, take the black marker and on the top part of the pot write: Growing in God's Word.
5. Pour a small amount of potting soil into the bottom of the pot. With adults help, place your plant into the pot and surround your plant with the rest of the soil. If planting seeds, follow the packet instructions.
6. Water your plant so the soil is moist. Check your plant everyday and keep the soil moist.
7. Enjoy watching your plant grow, and remember that you too, need care as you grow in God's Word.

2 Peter 3:18 NIV

But grow in the grace and knowledge of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. To him be glory both now and forever! Amen.



Cross Installation
Thank you to everyone
involved!