

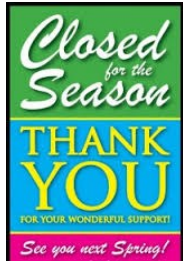


SEPTEMBER Birthdays

19 – Kelly Miller, 20 – Ellen Olson,
22 – Erika Stinson, 25 – Gerry Cliffe

OCTOBER Birthdays

3 – Jodi Binder, 4 – Sammy McCormick, 10 – June Brady,
19 – Bob Strasser, 21 – Edward Schuller, 25 – Cathy Murphy,
26 – Pat Wicks, 30 – Ray Wendell, 31 – Russell Scheibel



The 2018 Brat Stand Season is coming to a close! The last day will be next Saturday, Sept. 29th. Put it on your To Do List to stop over this weekend or next to support our efforts!





*Reveal / Selection Luncheon
Saturday, Dec. 8 at 12 Noon
Bring your final gift and
a side dish or dessert.
Main dish provided!*

We are being blessed again! Please plan on having dinner at Firehouse Subs at 2787 Milwaukee Rd., Beloit from 4-8pm on Tuesday, Oct. 23. They'll donate 15% of all proceeds to Faith Lutheran Church!





MARK YOUR CALENDARS
TRIVIA NIGHT & ITALIAN DINNER
SATURDAY, MARCH 2, 2019!



Our Annual Church Business Meeting will be held on Sunday, November 11th after a brief Fellowship break.
ALL MEMBERS ARE TO ATTEND!



Faith Lutheran Church

Faithfully Growing, Welcoming, and Caring through Christ

Sunday, September 23, 2018 ~ 9:30 am

18th Sunday After Pentecost

PRELUDE

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS



P: Blessed be the + Holy Trinity, the one who fashions us, the one who heals us, the one who reforms us again and again.

C: Amen.

P: Let us confess our sin, calling for God's transforming power. *(A brief silence.)* Source of all life,

C: we confess that we have not allowed your grace to set us free. We fear that we are not good enough. We hear your word of love freely given to us, yet we expect others to earn it. We turn the church inward, rather than moving it outward. Forgive us. Stir us. Reform us to be a church powered by love, willing to speak for what is right, act for what is just, and seek the healing of your whole creation. Amen.

P: God hears our cry and send the Spirit to change us and to empower our lives in the world. Our sins are forgiven + God's love is unconditional. And we are raised up as God's people who will always be made new, in the name of Jesus Christ.

C: Amen.

OPENING HYMN

God Is Here!



1 God is here! As we your peo - ple meet to of - fer
2 Here are sym - bols to re - mind us of our life - long
3 Here our chil - dren find a wel - come in the Shep - herd's
4 Lord of all, of church and king - dom, in an age of



praise and prayer, may we find in full - er mea - sure
need of grace; here are ta - ble, font, and pul - pit;
flock and fold; here as bread and wine are tak - en,
change and doubt, keep us faith - ful to the gos - pel;



what it is in Christ we share. Here, as in the
here the cross has cen - tral place. Here in hon - es -
Christ sus - tains us as of old. Here the ser - vants
help us work your pur - pose out. Here, in this day's



world a - round us, all our var - ied skills and arts
ty of preach - ing, here in si - lence, as in speech,
of the Ser - vant seek in wor - ship to ex - plore
ded - i - ca - tion, all we have to give, re - ceive;



wait the com - ing of the Spir - it in - to o - pen minds and hearts.
here, in new - ness and re - new - al, God the Spir - it comes to each.
what it means in dai - ly liv - ing to be - lieve and to a - dore.
we, who can - not live with - out you, we a - dore you! We be - lieve!

P: The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

C: And also with you.



We pray for the homeless, unemployed, those with mental struggles, our shut-ins & all of our students, all military personnel & their families. We pray for

friends, families & our loved ones: Aaron, Alex, Alyson & Jarrett, Anne Strasser & Family, Aunt Bettie, Barbi,

Barry & Shelby, Beth, Bev, Bob, Bonnie, Boyd & Inez, Brenda, Brianna & Matthew Hatch, Cindy, Claudine, Daniel Mears, Debi, Deliah, Diane, Dick, Don, Don & Harriet, Eric, Emily & Family, Faith, Family of Francis Eugene Guerin, Florence, Gary, Gavin, George, Heidi, Iris, Janie, Jared, Jean, Jeff, Jessica, Julia, June, Kathy Mears, Kenny, Kris, Larry, Linda, Lisa, Lori, Marshal, Matt, Matt Dunaway, Michael, Nan, Nick, Pat, Patricia Sarabia, Payton, Rich, Ruthann, Ryan, Brynn & Ellis McGuire, Sandy, Sandy Borre, Sara & Family, Tammie, Tammy, Taylor, Ted, Terri, Thomas, Tina, Todd, Tom, Violet, Vivian, and Zach



REMINDER
ALL ANNUAL COMMITTEE REPORTS
ARE DUE IN TO SUE BY
SUNDAY, OCTOBER 21

This week's altar flowers are donated by:
Kelly & Craig Miller
In honor of all September Birthdays!



A Very Merry Craft Show
**** Crafters & Vendors Wanted ****
Saturday, November 17 10am to 3pm
PLEASE TAKE 5 POSTCARDS TO
HELP SPREAD THE WORD!



Please turn OFF your cell phone.
Even on Mute, an incoming call will
cause a problem with the frequency of
our new microphones. Thank you!



Welcome to Faith Lutheran Church

We are happy to have you worship with us today!

Please join us for beverages, snacks and conversation after worship.

Communion is by intinction. Come forward to receive the bread with an open hand then dip in the wine (dark) or juice (light). Gluten-free wafers are available - indicate to Pastor when it's your turn. If you eat the bread before dipping or drop it, please ask for another piece. You don't have to be a member of Faith or be Lutheran to take Communion. Christ is the host of the meal ~

all baptized believers are welcome to participate.

Offering ~ If you are unable to attend worship, please make sure to catch up with your **offering** next week. Mail it to the church office and write "offering" on the envelope to be included in that week's offering, seen only by designated counters. Thanks for being so faithful in giving generously to God's work at Faith Lutheran.

Financials Sunday, September 16, 2018 - Week #37

Attendance - 80

Actual Offering	\$1,953.00
Weekly Offering Budget	\$2,176.00
2018 YTD Actual Offering	\$81,483.05
2018 YTD Offering Needed	\$80,512.00

In case of a pastoral need, please contact Pastor Rick

Cell: 815-566-5247 Home: 815-227-4679

Email: pastorr1@comcast.net

Today's Worship Leaders

Altar Guild - Carol & Roger Frey

Computer Tech - Sue Brunson

Offering Video - Helen Meier

Reader - Craig Miller

Counters - Carol & Roger Frey

Fellowship - Pat & Bernie Parisot

Greeters - Liz Shockley, Teresa Moffit, and Ruth Anderson

Musician - Betty Comins

Ushers - Doug Congdon & Ray Wendell

Pastor - Rev. Dr. Richard J. Meier

INTRODUCTION TO THE DAY

P: Today we hear James warn against selfish ambition, while the disciples quarrel over which one of them is the greatest. Jesus tells them the way to be great is to serve. Then, to make it concrete, he puts in front of them an actual flesh-and-blood child. We are called to welcome the particular children God puts in front of us, to make room for them in daily interaction, and to give them a place of honor in the assembly.

C: Amen.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

P: Let us pray. *(A brief silence.)* O God,

C: our teacher and guide, you draw us to yourself and welcome us as beloved children. Help us to lay aside all envy and selfish ambition, that we may walk in your ways of wisdom and understanding as servants of your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.



**CHILDREN'S
CHURCH**

FIRST READING: Jeremiah 11:18-20

A reading from Jeremiah, the 11th chapter.

It was the LORD who made it known to me, and I knew; then you showed me their evil deeds. But I was like a gentle lamb led to the slaughter. And I did not know it was against me that they devised schemes, saying, "Let us destroy the tree with its fruit, let us cut him off from the land of the living, so that his name will no longer be remembered!" But you, O LORD of hosts, who judge righteously, who try the heart and the mind, let me see your retribution upon them, for to you I have committed my cause.

R: Word of God, word of life.

C: Thanks be to God.

A Responsive Reading From Psalm 54

R: Save me, O God, by your name; in your might, defend my cause.

C: Hear my prayer, O God; give ear to the words of my mouth.

R: For strangers have risen up against me, and the ruthless have sought my life, those who have no regard for God.

C: Behold, God is my helper; it is the Lord who sustains my life.

R: Render evil to those who spy on me; in your faithfulness, destroy them.

C: I will offer you a freewill sacrifice and praise your name, O LORD, for it is good.

R: For you have rescued me from every trouble, and my eye looks down on my enemies.

C: Amen.

SECOND READING: James 3:13--4:3, 7-8a

A reading from James, the 3rd chapter.

Who is wise and understanding among you? Show by your good life that your works are done with gentleness born of wisdom. But if you have bitter envy and selfish ambition in your hearts, do not be boastful and false to the truth. Such wisdom does not come down from above, but is earthly, unspiritual, devilish. For where there is envy and selfish ambition, there will also be disorder and wickedness of every kind. But the wisdom from above is first pure, then peaceable, gentle, willing to yield, full of mercy and good fruits, without a trace of partiality or hypocrisy. And a harvest of righteousness is sown in peace for those who make peace. Those conflicts and disputes among you, where do they come from? Do they not come from your cravings that are at war within you? You want something and do not have it; so you commit murder. And you covet something and cannot obtain it; so you engage in disputes and conflicts. You do not have, because you do not ask. You ask and do not receive, because you ask wrongly, in order to spend what you get on your pleasures. Submit yourselves therefore to God. Resist the devil, and he will flee from you. Draw near to God, and he will draw near to you.

R: Word of God, word of life.

C: Thanks be to God.

~ WORDS OF INSTITUTION~

~ THE LORD'S PRAYER ~

~ COMMUNION ~

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

P: Holy and compassionate God, in bread and wine you give us gifts that form us to be humble and courageous. May your words come to life in our serving and in our witness, that we might speak a living voice of healing and justice to all the world, through Jesus Christ, our rock and our redeemer.

C: Amen.

BLESSING

P: Almighty God, Father, + Son, and Holy Spirit, bless you now and forever.

C: Amen.

CLOSING HYMN “Choral Benediction”

**May the light of God shine on us today.
May the light of God shine on us today.
May it show us where to travel,
lead us back if we should stray.
May the light of God shine on us today.**

**May the love of God live in us today.
May the love of God live in us today.
May the warmth we feel within us,
show in all we do and say.
May the love of God live in us today.**

**May the peace of God be with us today.
May the peace of God be with us today.
May it guide us and protect us,
as we go our separate ways.
May the peace of God be with us today.**

DISMISSAL

P: Go forth into the world to serve God with gladness.

C: Thanks be to God.

P: Welcoming God, you place children among us. Teach us to honor the children in our midst and to pay attention to what they can teach us about who you are. Lord, in your mercy,

C: hear our prayer.

P: You surround us with a cloud of witnesses who announce the good news of abundant life to a sad and needy world. Make us a pilgrim people, always telling the story of your loving kindness. Lord, in your mercy,

C: hear our prayer.

P: Into your wide embrace, gracious God, we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in your boundless mercy through Jesus Christ, our Redeemer.

C: Amen.

PEACE

P: The peace of Christ be with you always.

C: And also with you.

~ VIDEO DURING OFFERTORY ~
"Hallelujah Band" by Gaither Vocal Band

*We give thee but thine own, whatever the gift may be
All that we have is thine alone, a trust, O Lord, from thee.
May we thou bounties thus, as stewards true receive,
And gladly as thou blessed us, to thee our first fruits give.*

OFFERING PRAYER

P: God of life, you give us these gifts of the earth, these resources of our life and our labor. Take them offered in great thanksgiving, and use them to set a table that will heal the whole creation; through Jesus Christ, our savior and Light.

C: Amen.

DIALOGUE

P: The Lord be with you.

C: And also with you.

P: Lift up your hearts.

C: We lift them to the Lord.

P: Let us give thanks and praise to the Lord our God.

C: It is right to give God thanks and praise.

ALLELUIA

***Alleluia! Lord and Savior open now your saving word!
Let it burn like fire within us; Speak until our hearts are stirred.
Alleluia! Lord we sing for the good news that you bring.***

GOSPEL: Mark 9:30-37.

P: The holy gospel according to Mark, the 9th chapter.

C: Glory to you, O Lord.

Jesus and the disciples went on and passed through Galilee. He did not want anyone to know it; for he was teaching his disciples, saying to them, "The Son of Man is to be betrayed into human hands, and they will kill him, and three days after being killed, he will rise again." But they did not understand what he was saying and were afraid to ask him. Then they came to Capernaum; and when he was in the house he asked them, "What were you arguing about on the way?" But they were silent, for on the way they had argued with one another who was the greatest. He sat down, called the twelve, and said to them, "Whoever wants to be first must be last of all and servant of all." Then he took a little child and put it among them; and taking it in his arms, he said to them, "Whoever welcomes one such child in my name welcomes me, and whoever welcomes me welcomes not me but the one who sent me."

P: The gospel of the Lord.

C: Praise to you, O Christ.

SERMON

"True Greatness"



HYMN OF THE DAY

I Want to Walk as a Child of the Light



1 I want to walk as a child of the light. I want to
2 I want to see . . . the bright-ness of God. I want to
3 I'm look - ing for . . . the com - ing of Christ. I want to



fol - low Je - sus. God set the stars to give
look at Je - sus. Clear Sun of righ - teous-ness,
be with Je - sus. When we have run . . . with



light to the world. The star of my life is Je - sus.
shine on my path, and show me the way to the Fa - ther.
pa - tience the race, we shall know the joy of Je - sus.

Refrain



In him there is no dark-ness at all. The night and the



day are both a - like. The Lamb is the light of the



cit - y of God. Shine in my heart, Lord Je - sus.

The Apostles' Creed

*I believe in God, the Father almighty,
creator of heaven and earth.*

*I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord,
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,
born of the virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, died, and was buried; he descended to the dead.
On the third day he rose again; he ascended into heaven,
he is seated at the right hand of the Father,
and he will come to judge the living and the dead.*

*I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the holy catholic* church, the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body,
and the life everlasting. Amen.*

(*word meaning "universal"; you may substitute "Christian" if you wish.)

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

P: Freed by God in Christ to live and love and serve, we pray for the church, those in need, and all of God's beloved creation.

(A brief silence.) Gracious God, you gather congregations together by the power of your word. Bless leaders with the gifts of wisdom and discernment as they seek to make your church the community for which you long. Lord, in your mercy,

C: hear our prayer.

P: Creative God, blue whales and honeybees sing the goodness of the earth. Glaciers and deserts declare your greatness. Make us good stewards of our home for the generations to come. Lord, in your mercy,

C: hear our prayer.

P: Sovereign God, you raise up governments to protect the widow and orphan. Bless citizens with wisdom and discernment as they choose leaders. Inspire leaders to always seek the common good. Lord, in your mercy,

C: hear our prayer.

P: Loving God, you desire health and wholeness. Reconcile the conflicts and disputes among us. Teach us to heal the trauma of racism and poverty. Break our hearts open to all those who suffer and mourn (*especially*). Lord, in your mercy,

C: hear our prayer.