

# FAITH ALIVE

**April 2023**

MONTHLY NEWSLETTER FOR  
FAITH LUTHERAN CHURCH, LCMC





### What is a “Non-Denominational” Church?

It's little funny how trends in Christian history come and go. Not long ago it seemed almost fashionable to say, “We go to a non-denominational church.” Of course, people took that phrase to mean that they go to a Christian church, not Baptist, Presbyterian, Methodist, or Lutheran. To those folks, “non-denominational” means “No Name,” as though there were not a theological foundation for their church except learning the Bible and being Christian. So many thought that this was the case. There was a time when “Mainline” Christian denominations were dropping the denominational name from their signs, thus becoming “NON-denominational”. A Methodist church I was very familiar with changed their sign one day to “Embrace Church.” I was friends with the pastor who was still a Methodist and whose church was still Methodist in all respects.



I like to tell people that I'm a pastor of a “Non-Denominational Lutheran Church.” I have to say that it raises a few of eyebrows. When I recently introduced myself to a group of pastors that way, one of them said, “THIS is interesting.” While others chuckled a little bit. Lutheran Congregations in Mission for Christ (LCMC) is an association of independent Lutheran churches and clergy. There is no denominational hierarchy or structure. We literally have NO denomination. So why “Lutheran?” Well, that's exactly what we are. We are a historic, confessional church. Our roots go back to the Reformation. A pivotal time in church history when abuses of church hierarchy was out of control and the Bible wasn't understood or even accessible to the common person. We embrace a confession of Christian faith that is simple and Biblical.

Without the denominational hierarchy of other Lutheran bodies, this means that we are not told what we can or can't do from “higher” authorities. It means that we must maintain the integrity of our confession as a congregation. We won't have the accountability of overseers other than our ministry team and lay-leadership. Thus, we must all be people of the Word, in it daily. And so we will worship the Lord in Spirit and in Truth.

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**EMMA WOLLAN** | **YOUTH & FAMILY MINISTER**

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**Mission Trip:** The youth at Faith Lutheran are gearing up for a mission trip this summer! We'll be going to Colorado Springs from July 29-August 6, where we will step out in our faith and serve the community there. In the time leading up to the trip, we will be participating in a number of fund-raisers, such as the Easter Breakfast and Summer Garage Sale, and would love and appreciate any support that this church is able to give, including lots of prayer!

**Easter Egg Hunt:** April is starting off with an Easter Egg Hunt on the 1st! Kids ages 1-10 are welcome to come search for eggs all around the church property! If you would like to volunteer to help with the egg hunt, contact the church office.

**Vacation Bible School Summer 2023:** Mark your calendars for June 12-16th, VBS Week! Sign ups for volunteers and participants are open! We are excited to transport kids to space where they can stand in awe of what God has created and how he sustains it!

Go to [vbspro.events/p/faithlutheranstellar](https://vbspro.events/p/faithlutheranstellar) to register!



Hi, I am Blake Anderson your new Community Outreach Minister. I am excited that God has called me to serve here at Faith Lutheran. I am about to finish my bachelor's degree through Liberty University in Christian Ministry. I plan on attending ILT in the fall to begin a MDiv program. I am so thankful that I get to be a part of such an amazing team here at Faith. This is truly a special church filled with amazing people. I have to agree with Pastor Mark that Faith is a ten talent church.

A little about me, I am the proud father of three wonderful children. I am married to the most lovely wife Marion, and I strongly encourage everyone to get to know her. We are excited to raise our children in this Faith family. We definitely consider ourselves blessed beyond belief with what God has in store for us here. I am very passionate about ministry and seeing the way God enriches lives every day. I am a combat veteran and being of service to other vets is a mission that I embrace with all my heart. I am from Great Falls and have been a member of Faith Lutheran for over twenty-five years. I was confirmed at Faith and received my First Communion from Pastor Ken. Most of you know my parents Cindy and Dwayne Anderson. I am thankful everyday that they raised me as a disciple of our Lord and Savior. I struggled for a long time seeing my value to the kingdom due to my time in the service but I'm so thankful that God forgives sinners like me and led me to where he always wanted me. My life is totally devoted to serving the Lord anyway he wants me. I'm very thankful that journey led me to service here at Faith Lutheran.



I am excited to be a part of the team that is moving Faith to a seven day a week church. Small groups are starting soon so if you are interested in joining a small group and growing your faith please contact the church office. I have already started sending daily devotionals out to the congregation, and my hope is that we carry our faith in our lives every day. Faith Lutheran is a special church in this community full of amazing people I look forward to growing our family here. I want Faith Lutheran to stand as a beacon of hope for this community, a place that others look to as an example of how to make a significant difference in the town.

I would also like to say how impressed I am with the council and their decision to bring in Pastor Mark. As a long time member I cannot see a better person to lead us forward after Pastor Ken's retirement. I look to both as mentors and I thank God that he has blessed me with such shining examples of how to do ministry. I have already learned so much and I look forward to the future and the plans that God has for me to be in service of all of you amazing people.

Lastly, I would like to tell you that I love you all and I am inspired daily by the people that make up this church. You guys get me so excited to do ministry work and the fever that is building here is palpable. The Holy Spirit is definitely at work in the people that make up this church, and without you this is just a hollow building. (I will admit a beautiful hollow building.) I look forward to growing together and continuing to stand as a church in action here in Great Falls. I'm forever grateful that I'm here and I think about a reading from Isaiah 6:8 when I think about the congregation of Faith: "Whom shall I send? And who will go for us?" And I said, "Here I am. Send me."

# CHURCH ANNOUNCEMENTS

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## DEAR MEMBERS OF FAITH LUTHERAN CHURCH,

Thank you so much. I will enjoy the tickets to the Big Fork Summer Theater, and the accompanying gift card is most appreciated. Thanks too for the special celebration of my retirement as Treasure of Faith Lutheran, especially to all who planned and executed the "party" (complete with sparkling apple juice and "Debt-Free" and "Set Free" cakes) given on the day of our annual meeting.

It should be noted that I received much support during my tenure as Treasure.

-Thank you to all who served, and are yet serving, on the Finance and Stewardship Teams as well as on the Church Council.

- Thank you to all who helped make membership contacts for the purpose of soliciting gifts that went to the funding of our church building.

- Thank you to Pastor Ken and Pastor Mark who willingly met with me for planning purposes and to visit about strategy.

- Finally, thank you to all the membership for your gifts to Faith Lutheran, which included those to our building project. My job was a whole lot easier due to your generosity.

I am grateful that Jami Johnson has agreed to serve as my successor, and I trust that she will receive all the support and encouragement that I did.

Sincerely,

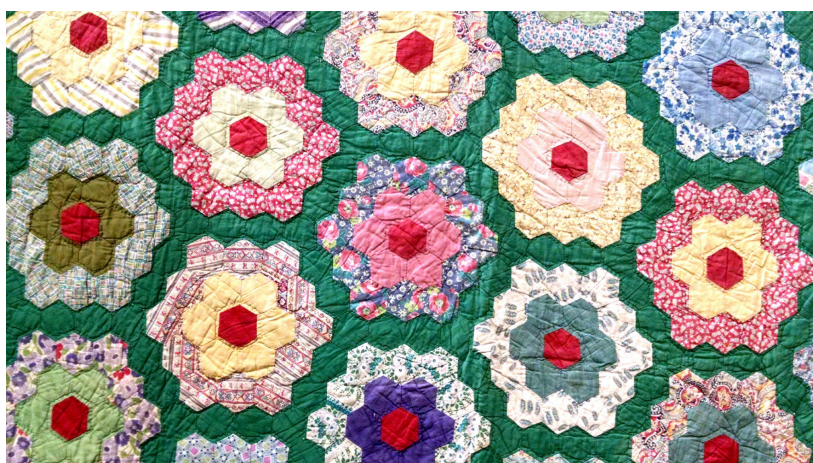
Rod Thorne

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## LOVE DAY QUILTERS- THURSDAY, MARCH 2ND 9AM-11AM

The wintery weather with experienced in March reminds us of why our quilts are so appreciated by their recipients. We hope April will bring more signs of spring. I provided an Oreo mint desert and a light'n fruity peach dessert for our treats in March. If you think this activity sounds like fun, we welcome new members!

Augie Records





## 2023 DAILY BIBLE READING PLAN

### April

1	Joshua 8-9	Luke 7:1-17
2	Psalms 42-44	
3	Joshua 10-12	Luke 7:18-35
4	Joshua 13-15	Luke 7:36-50
5	Joshua 16-19	Luke 8:1-21
6	Joshua 20-22	Luke 8:22-39
7	John 18-19	
8	Isaiah 52:13- 53:12	
9	John 20	
10	Joshua 23-24	Luke 8:40-56
11	Judges 1:1- 3:6	Luke 9:1-17
12	Judges 3:7- 5:31	Luke 9:18-45
13	Judges 6-7	Luke 9:46-62
14	Judges 8-9	Luke 10:1-24
15	Judges 10-12	Luke 10:25-42
16	Psalms 45-47	
17	Judges 13-15	Luke 11:1-28
18	Judges 16	Luke 11:29- 12:12
19	Judges 17-18	Luke 12:13-34
20	Judges 19-21	Luke 12:35- 13:9
21	Ruth 1-4	Luke 13:10-35
22	1 Sam. 1:1- 4:1a	Luke 14
23	Psalms 48-50	
24	1 Sam. 4:1b- 7:17	Luke 15
25	1 Sam. 8-10	Luke 16:1-18
26	1 Sam. 11-12	Luke 16:19- 17:10
27	1 Sam. 13-14	Luke 17:11- 18:8
28	1 Sam. 15-16	Luke 18:9-34
29	1 Sam. 17-18	Luke 18:35- 19:27
30	Psalms 51-54	

## SPECIAL OFFERINGS FOR MARCH

1st Sunday:

### **Helping Hands**

Helping Hands is located in the downtown area and provides food, hygienic items, and clothing to individuals facing financial hardship.

3rd Sunday:

### **Children's Receiving Home**

The Great Falls Children's Receiving Home provides temporary and emergency foster care to victims of abuse and neglect ages birth to eighteen.

## PRAYER REQUESTS

### Grieving

The Family of Janet Kempf

### Healing

Kneelon Teague  
Monica Fournier  
Harry & Roine Grosvold  
Eva Hendrickson  
Lenora Graham  
Bruce Kempf  
Robin Beyl  
Mary Marty  
Jim Taylor  
Mike Dawson



## FISH- CHRISTIAN FOOD PROGRAM

### **FISH's Family Statistics for February 2023**

	Feb 22	2022 YTD	Feb 23	2023 YTD
Families (non-singles)	34	66	36	78
Singles	31	66	40	78
Adults	92	173	109	220
Children	36	75	45	83
Meals	1,920	3,720	2,310	4545
Lbs of Food	4,390	8,663	4,479	9947

FAITH LUTHERAN  
*Easter*  
EGG HUNT

FOR CHILDREN AGES 1-9

SATURDAY, APRIL 1ST  
10AM

SERVICE AT  
FAITH LUTHERAN CHURCH  
7:00 PM

MAUNDY  
THURSDAY

SERVICE AT  
FAITH LUTHERAN CHURCH  
7:00 PM

GOOD  
FRIDAY

LIVE  
MUSIC  
PERFORMANCE

BY DAVE ANDERSON & ROGER WALCK

THURS, APRIL 20, 2023 | 07:00  
FAITH LUTHERAN CHURCH

FAITH LUTHERAN CHURCH

Easter Services

8:30AM & 10:30AM

Easter Breakfast at 9:30am  
Free will offering proceeds  
go to FLC Youth

## APRIL BIRTHDAYS

1 Andrea Mikulecky	12 Leroy Ahlers	20 Carol Dawson
Ryan Severson	Jennifer Tucker	21 Lauren Larance
Sherry Tempel	Tim Webb	24 Gordon Matson
2 Miranda Osio	13 Diane Lowry	25 Lily DiFulgentis
Patricia Sletten	Sophia Scheels	28 Jordan Demko
Josh Sommer	Parker Zimmer	29 Paul Fritz
3 Haven Hellman	14 Kim Hollandsworth	Tara Rosipal
4 Becca Bortnem	McKinley Tempel	30 Carol Anderson
Robert Larance	15 Deb Ammondson	Amy Dorr
5 Fran Lindgren	16 Barbara Holden	Ken Lee
Steve Sem	Dylan Swandal	31 Gary Knudson
Tricia Sommer	Adeline Tollefson	Cayle Schraner
7 Kenneth Boobar	17 Kyle Blunn	Susan Weber Mora
Tim Drown	18 Anna Micealson	
Jacob Hagel	Danita Severson	
9 Brandi Clewley	19 Carl Dunn	
10 Tom Fundis	Sandra Fritz	
	April Hall	
	Carolyn Schmidt	

Watch over Your children, O Lord, as their days increase; bless and guide them wherever they may be. Strengthen them when they stand; comfort them when discouraged or sorrowful; raise them up if they fall; and in their hearts may Your peace which passes understanding abide all the days of their lives; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

## ANNIVERSARIES

8 Ron & Diane Steffens	27 Joel & Dixie Demko
17 Lance & Marilyn Olson	29 Sean & Andrea Hoven



# April 2023



SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
<b>2</b> <i>Palm Sunday</i> 8:30am-Adult Bible Study 9:30am - Worship 11am-Adult Bible Study						<b>1</b> 10am- Easter Egg Hunt
<b>3</b> 2pm - Ivy Bible Study 5:30pm- Bell Choir 6pm- Essential Chapters 6:30pm- Vocal Choir			<b>5</b> 10am - Bible Study 11:30- Evangelism Tactics 5:45pm- Confirmation 6pm- Men of Faith 7pm- FLY Night	<b>6</b> 7am - Men's Bible Study 9am- Love Day Quilting 11am- Life Team Meeting 12pm- Evangelism Meeting 6pm- Soldiers for Christ 7pm- Maundy Thursday Service	<b>7</b> 10:30am - Iris Communion 7pm- Good Friday Service	<b>8</b>
<b>9</b> <i>Easter Sunday</i> 8:30am - Easter Worship 9:30am- Easter Breakfast 10:30am- Easter Worship	<b>10</b>	<b>11</b> 11:30am-Soulo @ Maria's 2pm - Ivy Bible Study 5:30pm- Bell Choir 6pm- Essential Chapters 6:30pm- Vocal Choir 6:30pm- Education Team	<b>12</b> 10am - Bible Study 11:30- Evangelism Tactics 2:30- Highgate Communion 5:45pm- Confirmation 7pm- FLY Bible Study	<b>13</b> 7am - Men's Bible Study 10am - Abigail Circle 6pm- Soldiers for Christ	<b>14</b> 6:30pm- Monica Fournier Benefit Dinner	<b>15</b>
<b>16</b> 8:30am-Adult Bible Study 9:30am - Worship 11am-Adult Bible Study	<b>17</b>	<b>18</b> 2pm - Ivy Bible Study 5:30pm- Bell Choir 6pm- Essential Chapters 6:30pm- Vocal Choir	<b>19</b> 8:45am- Finance Meeting 10am - Bible Study 11:30am- Evangelism Tactics 3pm- Personnel Team 4:30pm - Property Team 5:45pm- Confirmation 7pm- FLY Night *Add. to May Newsletter Due	<b>20</b> 7am - Men's Bible Study 1:30pm- Care Team 3pm - Golden Eagle Communion 7pm- Live Music @ Faith	<b>21</b>	<b>22</b> 10am- Confirmation CREDO Practice Pictures
<b>23</b> <i>Confirmation Sunday</i> 8:30am-Adult Bible Study 9:30am - Worship 11am-Adult Bible Study	<b>24</b>	<b>25</b> 2pm - Ivy Bible Study 5:30pm- Bell Choir 6pm- Essential Chapters 6:30pm- Vocal Choir	<b>26</b> 10am - Bible Study 11:30- Evangelism Tactics 7pm- FLY Bible Study	<b>27</b> 7am - Men's Bible Study 5:30pm- Council Meeting 6pm- Soldiers for Christ	<b>28</b>	<b>29</b>



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### **CHURCH STAFF**

Pastor:	Mark Neumann
Pastoral Associate:	Diane Lowry
Youth & Family Minister:	Emma Wollan
Community Outreach Minister:	Blake Anderson
Office Mgr/Secretary:	Hannah Scheels
Treasurer:	Jami Johnson
Bookkeeper:	Orry Rittenhouse
Choir Director:	Karlene Schraner
Custodian:	Bob Palmer

### **OFFICE HOURS:**

9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. Monday-Thursday

Phone: (406) 454-1309  
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THIS IS THE JOURNEY OF FAITH.

