



An August Prayer

There's not much exciting about this month, Lord.

- No national holidays,
 such as in July and September.
- No religious festivals,
 such as Christmas or Easter,
- No family days,
 such as Mother's Day or Father's Day.

It is a month
of hot afternoons and lawn sprinklers,
of forgotten baseball teams out of contention,
of dying enthusiasm for lawns and gardens.

But here in worship we remember
that every day is a gift from you,
that there is a time to relax as well as to work,
that the cycle of seasons is a part of Your creation.

Therefore, help us to use our time well, even the hot August days.

When we have time to travel,
 grant us safety on the highways.
When we have time to sit leisurely in the yard,
 grant us rest without a sense of guilt.



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When we have time to be together as families,
 grant that we really be "with" each other.
When we are at work,
 grant that we do not excuse irritability because of the heat.
When we are on vacation,
 grant that we be refreshed in body and spirit.

Then, Lord, we can thank You even for August days, and say of each day, "This is the day which You have made. We will rejoice and be glad in it."

Amen.

Faith Church News

We continue to pray for Ann Thielking, Ralph Spies, Bob Blankenburg, Jim Lehtinen, Tom Rohr, Jane Wildes, Donna Trumblee, Eunice Koeppen, Rose Brady, Marilyn Paulson, Connie Herrington, Deb Bell Geiser's mother, Annette Mohling's mother, Russ Gerst's father.

Calendar Reminder: We will continue our Sunday worship time at 9:00 am through August. Beginning September 5th, worship times will revert to 8:00 am and 10:45 am. Sunday School Rally Sunday will be Sunday, September 12th at 9:15 am. Saturday service will continue year-round at 5:30 pm. Please prayerfully consider if you could help on one of the worship teams.

It's not too late...to register for Financial Peace University. Our free preview class is TODAY, August 17th from 7-9 in the Family Center. Our first class will begin next week, August 24th from 7-9 pm and run for 13 weeks. Give Jen a call at 377-9700 if you're interested. Kits are available for purchase for \$99 per family in the church office or at the class.

Wednesday Night Live begins on Wednesday, September 8th. Volunteers are needed in all areas. Sign up will be available at worship services the next few weekends or contact Penny Ripley at 373-2328 or pdripley1@gmail.com.

This Thursday, August 19th is game time! Join us for our 1:00 pm start time. All abilities are welcome!

Coffee with Pastor this month is one that you won't want to miss! Join us on Thursday, August 23rd at 3:00 pm as our own Richard Hill shares his presentation and model of "A History of Barn Structures" and his handcrafted 1915 Loudon Barn. Come roll bandages beforehand at 1:00 pm.



Expectations of Discipleship

Worship every week, experience God's Word in Scripture and proclamation, the Means of Grace found in the bread and wine, and the waters of baptism. Commit to being in worship here or as you travel.

Pray in daily life, around the dinner table, as you drive, as you wake and as you sleep. Let all of life be a prayer! Commit to praying every day.

Grow in faith. Attend Bible studies, read the Bible, invest in your faith, learn spiritual practices, invite others to worship. Commit to growing in faith every day.

Give regularly. Be intentional about giving to grow God's Kingdom through Faith Lutheran Church. Commit to giving, work toward a goal of 10% (Biblical tithe).

Serve faithfully. Find a ministry and share your gifts through serving others. Commit to serving this community and its mission to the rest of the world.

Faith Lutheran's 3rd Annual Bratfest will be held on Saturday, September 18th in the Faith Lutheran parking lot and the Bratfest Committee needs your help and support.

Food will be served from 4:30 pm until the final band break. The polka music will go from 5:00—9:00 pm. This year's band will be Barefoot Becky from Mt. Vernon.

Purchase your quilt raffle tickets on Sundays this summer. We are actively looking for 2 coordinator positions including kitchen coordinator and volunteer coordinator. For questions or to volunteer, please see Steve Deines or contact him at 373-0990 or sddeines@inav.net.

You can also go onto our website at faithlutheran.org to purchase tickets, see a video clip of Barefoot Becky and get more information about the event. Check it out!

7:00 -9:00 pm and run for 13 weeks. Cost is \$99 but the change to your life will be priceless!

Exciting Sunday School News

We've spent the summer planning and preparing for an exciting new Sunday School year at Faith. Among the exciting and new things, rotational Sunday School for children in grades AK (Pre-K) through 5th Grades. We'll be walking with our children as they learn in three distinct ways including music, story, and arts/crafts.

Groups will circulate through the hallways as they head to the next stop in their learning adventure each week. Story time will feature a story teller, perhaps in costume, in a room that feels like the inside of a tent! Music will feature a time to learn new songs about the story and sing some old favorites, we'll get to hear these songs during worship on a regular basis as well! Arts/crafts time will be a time to engage the story through creating masterpieces to take home or display in the hallways at church!

The idea is to engage different learning styles and movement, things that have been proven to enhance learning and retention in children. Are you interested in being a part of the team of folks who'll make rotation Sunday School work? Contact me and I'll be happy to tell you about the many wonderful opportunities.

Middle Schoolers rejoice, you'll all be together for Sunday School this year! Mrs. Burley and others will be spending time with you as you explore the Bible more deeply and ask questions about faith and life. High Schoolers, you'll be continuing great conversations about the weekly Bible lessons from worship. You'll be asking questions like "how does this fit with my

life?" and learning more interesting things about the people, their lives, and the settings of these amazing texts.

Adult Learners, yes, I said ADULT LEARNERS, we have plenty in store for you. Pastor Paul will offer special Sunday morning courses throughout the year and Pastor John will continue with his popular Pastor's Class each week. We've remodeled the Library and it will now be a great place to gather for fellowship and education each week. We expect all of our members to invest in nurturing faith through the many options we offer each Sunday and throughout the week.

We are excited about the coming year of Sunday School, and we'll kick it all off with a HUGE Rally Day event on Sunday, September 12th. Watch for more details in the next few weeks and be sure to pick up a Sunday School registration form for your children, then return it to the office ASAP so we can make plans for all of the children of Faith. As always, friends are welcome, so invite someone to join you!

Pastor Paul

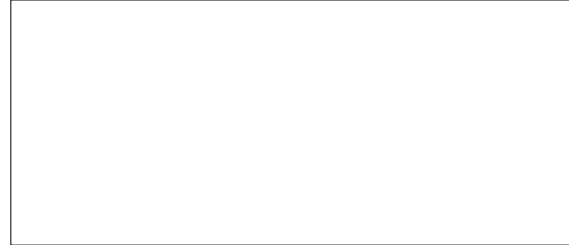




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*We are a community of Faith,
growing in Christ, sharing God's love.*



Worship Opportunities

All are welcome and invited to worship at Faith Lutheran Church.

Worship

Saturdays at 5:30 pm

Sundays at 9:00 am

Beginning September 5th

Saturdays at 5:30 pm

Sundays at

8:00 am & 10:45 am

**Sunday School begins
September 12th– Rally Sunday**

WNL begins on September 8th

Faith has been serving the Marion-Cedar Rapids area for more than thirty years; supporting local ministries such as the Marion Food Bank, Habitat for Humanity, and Senior Assistance Programs. We are in partnership with the 10,657 congregations, 28 Lutheran colleges and universities, 8 seminaries, 450 global missionaries and one of the largest non-profit social service networks in the United States; as well as Lutheran World Relief worldwide. All are ministries of the 5.2 million member Evangelical Lutheran Church in America.

Faith Lutheran Church Staff

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Senior Pastor

Paul M. Amlin
Associate Pastor

Jen Heinsius
Secretary

Diane Lehtinen
Choir Director

Steve Roggow
Bell Choir

Don Schluter
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Directors of Youth

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Directors of Fellowship

Russ Gerst
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Diane Lehtinen
Director of Witness

Dave Koch
Financial Secretary

James Gardiner
Director of Facilities

Mark Siebenga
Directors of Adult Nurture

Director of Youth Nurture

Kerry Koch
Director of Social Concerns

But most of the real work is done by unpaid members of the congregation, often without recognition, who see their service as a response to God.