



Faith Lutheran

1402 East Avenue C, Bismarck, ND 58501

Phone: 701-223-2236 Fax: 701-223-0485

www.faithbismarck.com

News and Views

July 2020
Volume 2020, Issue 7

MISSION STATEMENT

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

Golf Scramble

Prairie West Golf Course
July 18
TEE OFF TIME: 1:00 PM

We are looking for Hole Sponsors (\$100), Prizes and Golfers.
The golfing fee is only \$90 which includes:
lunch, dinner, golf and a cart.

Money raised will benefit the 2021 YOUTH TRIP to Minneapolis.
Call the church office at 701-223-2236 to donate or register.

FAITH LUTHERAN CHURCH CLERGY

Pastor Derek Harkins
(Fridays off)
Pastor Sylvia Bull
(Fridays off)

WORSHIP SCHEDULE

SUNDAY: 9:30 AM
Online
WEDNESDAY 7:00 PM
Online

OFFICE HOURS

Monday - Thursday
8:00 AM - 5:00 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 generally open during the lunch hour.

Outdoor Worship Schedule

Sundays at 9:30am or Wednesdays at 7pm

Dates:

Wednesday, July 8
Sunday, July 12
Wednesday, July 22
Sunday, July 26

Please bring:

A chair or blanket
Bread or crackers
Your Bible
A mask

FLC Executive Team

Jennifer Prince, Chair

Doug Johnson, Vice-Chair

Tina Anderson, Vice-Chair

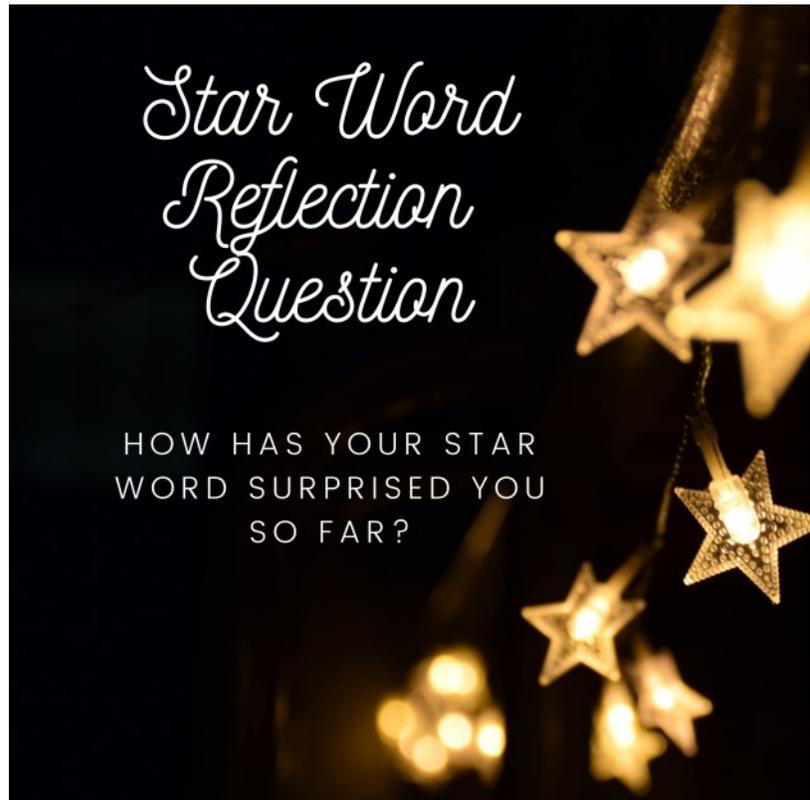
Steve Sundvor, Secretary

Hope Schreiner, Treasurer

Pastoral Ministries

Funeral

John Opp



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 each week is at noon on Tuesday for the coming Sunday bulletin.

Articles, schedules, etc., can be sent by email to donna.bisfaith@gmail.com. For additional information, call the church office at 701-223-2236.

Clergy and Ministry Staff Contact Information

Derek Harkins, Senior Pastor / 701-891-9175 / derek.bisfaith@gmail.com

Sylvia Bull, Associate Pastor / 406-750-3956 / sylvia.bisfaith@gmail.com

Lisa Aamodt, Accountant / 701-223-2236 / lisa.bisfaith@gmail.com

Janine Johannes, Music Leader / 701-223-2236 / janine.bisfaith@gmail.com

Cheryl Johnson, Office Manager / 701-223-2236 / cheryl.bisfaith@midconetwork.com

Kenny Opsal, Director of Education & Youth / 701-223-2236 / kenny.bisfaith@midconetwork.com

Randy Smith, Maintenance Supervisor / 701-223-2236

Donna Weigel, Communication Assistant / 701-223-2236 / donna.bisfaith@gmail.com

Pastor Derek's Parables

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

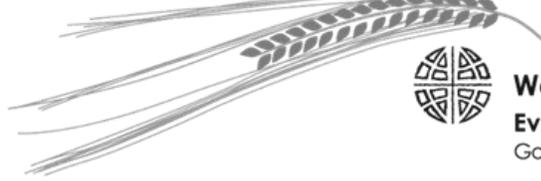
The apostle Paul did two very important and distinct things at the beginning of almost every letter that he wrote to congregations across the Mediterranean – he greeted them in the name of Christ and he gave thanks for their community. For instance, in Paul's first letter to the church in Corinth, he wrote, "Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ. I give thanks to my God always for you because of the grace of God that has been given you in Christ Jesus, for in every way you have been enriched in him, in speech and knowledge of every kind."



I have already greeted you in Christ's name, but I would also like to give thanks to God for you and the community of Faith Lutheran Church. While we have not truly had the opportunity to meet face to face yet or get to know one another, I want you to know that you have been in my prayers for quite some time now. Your Call Committee and I entered into conversations dreaming of what a shared ministry might be like with one another several months ago. From that moment I have felt the Spirit's tugging and prodding, I have felt excitement and anticipation, and yes, I have felt thanksgiving – thanksgiving for you, Faith Lutheran Church, and the possibility of serving you and the Bismarck community. Even with delays and the necessity for creativity due to COVID-19, I remain thankful and excited for this call.

The leadership's creativity at FLC and your willingness to adapt tells me a lot about your community. We are beginning a time of ministry together in a very unique way during a very unique time. We will need grace, we will need patience, and we will continue to need an openness to creativity and new ways of doing things with one another. There will be challenges ahead, but, honestly, I am very excited for what the future might hold for us together at Faith Lutheran Church. I am excited to journey through those challenges with all of you. I am excited to grow with you and alongside of you. Yes, I give thanks for you, sisters and brothers!

In Christ,
Pastor Derek



A MESSAGE FROM THE INTERIM BISHOP



Luke 15:1-7 NRSV

Now all the tax collectors and sinners were coming near to listen to Jesus. And the Pharisees and the scribes were grumbling and saying, "This fellow welcomes sinners and eats with them." So Jesus

told them this parable: which one of you, having 100 sheep and losing one of them, does not leave the 99 in the wilderness and go after the one that is lost until he finds it? When he has found it, he lays it on his shoulders and rejoices. And when he comes home, he calls together his friends and neighbors saying to them, "Rejoice with me, for I have found my sheep that was lost." Just so, I tell you, there will be more joy in heaven over one sinner who repents than over 99 righteous persons who need no repentance.

In just a few short weeks, on July 17, the Western North Dakota Synod Assembly is gathering at a special meeting to do the work that is required of the people of Western North Dakota who are walking together. We will elect people to the Synod Council and Boards, pass a budget, discuss a couple of Resolutions, hear reports of ministry around the synod, and elect a new bishop. That pastor, so chosen, will officially begin their term on September 1, 2020.

As the voting members from each of the congregations prepare to do the work of the Synod on July 17, here are some hopefully helpful items to consider as you elect your new bishop.

Please read the WND Synod's constitution section on the Office of the Bishop: <http://wndsynod.org/preparing-bishops-election/> before you arrive. It is the longest section in any of our 3 ELCA Constitutions and truth be told I find the list of duties to be daunting. The responsibilities are far reaching and they each are important to the life and health of the Church. They require a team effort to complete them, as to date I've not met a bishop who can fulfill them all on their own. Having the right people to work with is the most important first decision the bishop-elect will make.

As I told the South Dakota Synod in 2007 when I was first elected and I believe it still to be true is this; "the only lasting impactful gift that a bishop provides to the Synod, is which leaders are invited in and those that are kept out." As the church changed during my 12 years a 2nd phrase was added. "And which leaders we raise up from our midst to train and educate to be pastors and deacons." Western North Dakota will have to continue the work that Bishop Narum and the staff began of finding, training, mentoring and educating local people who will finally serve as Ordained Pastors and Deacons. The process is called

discernment and I believe it is one of the most important tasks that bishops, staff and Candidacy Committees undertake for the church.

I would speak to each of the pastors that are eligible for election. Please be mindful of the personal costs that come with the call to the office of bishop. This calling will impact your relationships, your health and your spirit. How you respond and deal with the impact will be up to you and I strongly encourage you to be responsive in ways that are life-giving.

Remember that the bishop is the pastor to the Synod. We are responsible for the proclamation of the Good News of Jesus Christ and for the people of God. All of them, not just the 99, even the lost 1. As I have watched my fellow bishops work and what I have set my hand to is the regular task of finding lost sheep. When the bishop is working with people who have been victimized by the church and have become lost, I have found it to be holy work, but

regularly the 99 will not be as impressed, they may even grumble. The work of seeking the lost and all that comes with that work must not be abandoned or forsaken.

Finally, the most important characteristic needed in a bishop is a deep abiding faith in Jesus Christ. Know that you are a child of God and that no matter what, Christ will not let you go. Rest in the promise that was poured into each one of us in our baptism and know finally that it is not your church, but Jesus Christ's church.

I will continue to pray that the leader that is needed now for the people of God in Western North Dakota will be chosen. My prayers of support will continue.

Yours in Christ,



The Rev. David B Zellmer
Interim Bishop of the Western North Dakota
Synod, ELCA



*If you have a pastoral care emergency,
please call:*

701-595-0223

Pastor Derek or Pastor Sylvia
will use this on-call number to respond.

Thank you!



Financial Update

General Fund Revenues

May, \$42,945; to date, \$230,585;

General Fund Expenditures

May, \$38,974; to date, \$219,474

Faith Lutheran Church Memorials

For **Capital Improvements**,
in memory of **Dean Rahn**

For **Youth**,
in memory of **Stuart Pfenning**
(7.3.1963 - 10.16.81)

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



The **Chair Campaign of 2019** was very successful by meeting the goal of \$17,000 to buy new banquet chairs for fellowship and the gathering place. Thank you. Since you were so generous – we were also able to

purchase nine office chairs for the office staff. On March 17, 2020 the 210 banquet chairs arrived. Many of you have not seen the chairs since the on-site worship services were cancelled as of March 22 due to the corona virus. We are looking forward to using them soon. The old chairs were upcycled by gifting them to Camp of the Cross in Garrison.

- *Stewardship Committee*



Thank you to the **Men of Faith** for not only exercising our freedom to gather responsibly, but to also exercise our backs, arms, and, legs while weeding and conducting a general clean-up of

the church grounds. Not only did it provide us an opportunity for some social time, but also provided an opportunity for service during these trying times. Our hope is that we will again be able to gather in a somewhat normal fashion, so stay tuned as we have not cancelled, but merely postponed the potato/chili feed.

STEPPING INTO THE FUTURE

The past couple months have been filled with deep gratitude for the way you have risen to the challenges of the coronavirus crisis. We have faced conditions unprecedented in the entire history of our church, and always you have responded with faithfulness and generosity. Step by step we have made changes to adapt to the ever new circumstances. Now we are looking forward to the next stage of our church's journey. There are a few items that need our attention.

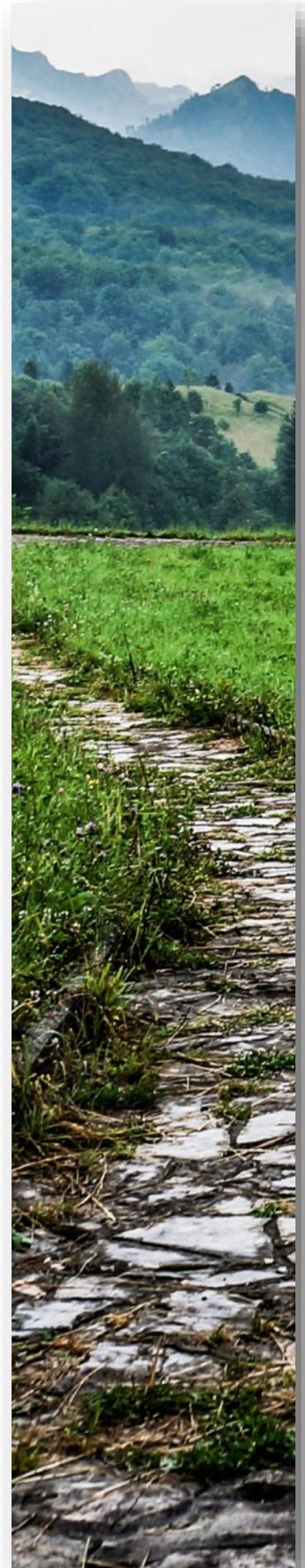
Our payroll loan has run out.

We were blessed to receive a loan to cover two months of staff salaries under the CARES act. This allowed us to retain all our valuable staff during a very challenging time. During the lock down they worked creatively to ensure that ministry could continue in new ways. We are now applying to have that loan forgiven so essentially it will have been a grant. However, now we will once again be responsible for covering the whole payroll. Our giving is dropping off a bit. One of the most heart-warming things that happened during the lockdown was the generosity of the members of our church. Giving for the last couple months has kept pace with giving during the previous year. Many people included little notes of encouragement and support with their offerings. But now we are seeing a bit of drop off in giving. This is normal for the summer months but given the unusual circumstances we cannot afford to let our guard down.

The new pastor will be coming onboard in July.

It is very exciting to have Pastor Derek Harkins with us as of July 1st. He will bring new energy and direction to our church, but we will also need to step up to support the full compensation for a lead pastor – including pension, disability, and health insurance.

Despite the disruption of the past couple months, even though we could not gather as church, we still find ourselves deeply connected. This has been a vivid reminder that our church is not primarily a building or institution, but a family of faith. Our mission of sharing God's love and peace is more important than ever. We are deeply grateful for your investment in this mission and look forward to your continued support.



Faith Lutheran Church
 1402 E Avenue C
 Bismarck, ND 58501-4398
 www.faithbismarck.com
 (701)223-2236

NON-PROFIT ORG
 US POSTAGE PAID
 PERMIT NO. 236
 Bismarck, ND 58501

CHANGE SERVICE REQUESTED
 July 2020



July News and Views

Faith Lutheran Church

July 2020

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			<u>1</u> 7:00 Online Worship	<u>2</u>	<u>3</u> Church Office Closed 8:00 NA	<u>4</u> Independence Day
<u>5</u> 9:30 Online Worship	<u>6</u> 7:00 AA	<u>7</u> 1:00 Crafts	<u>8</u> 11:00 Bible Study-ZOOM 7:00 Outdoor Worship	<u>9</u>	<u>10</u> 8:00 NA Newsletter deadline	<u>11</u>
<u>12</u> 9:30 Outdoor Worship	<u>13</u> 7:00 AA	<u>14</u> 1:00 Crafts	<u>15</u> 11:00 Bible Study-ZOOM 7:00 Online Worship	<u>16</u>	<u>17</u> 8:00 NA	<u>18</u> 1:00 Golf Scramble
<u>19</u> 9:30 Online Worship	<u>20</u> 7:00 AA	<u>21</u> 1:00 Crafts	<u>22</u> 11:00 Bible Study-ZOOM 7:00 Outdoor Worship	<u>23</u>	<u>24</u> 8:00 NA	<u>25</u>
<u>26</u> 9:30 Outdoor Worship	<u>27</u> 7:00 AA	<u>28</u> 1:00 Crafts	<u>29</u> 11:00 Bible Study-ZOOM 7:00 Online Worship	<u>30</u>	<u>31</u> 8:00 NA	