

**Summer Worship Hours**  
**Saturday @ 5:00 pm**  
**Sunday @ 9:00 am**



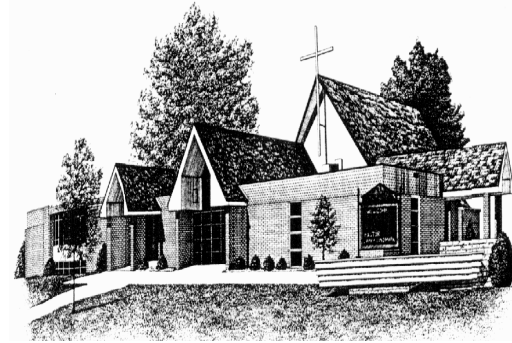
**Faith Lutheran Church**  
500 W. LeClaire Road  
Eldridge, IA 52748

Non-Profit Organization  
PERMIT NO. 1  
Eldridge, IA 52748

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED



## Faith Lutheran Church



# AMBASSADOR

**August 2019**

**Rev. Dr. Carrie Lewis La Plante**  
**Rev. Heather Geest**

500 W. LeClaire Road  
Eldridge, IA 52748  
(563) 285-4501

[www.faithlutheraneldridge.com](http://www.faithlutheraneldridge.com)

From Pastor Carrie, Rally Day .....	Page 2-3
To Mars and Beyond, VBS.....	Pages 4 & 5
Sr. High Youth Mission Trip .....	Pages 6 & 7
Sr. High Youth.....	Page 7
Calendar of Events.....	Pages 8 & 9
Youth Group Kick Off, Confirmation Meeting .....	Page 10
WOF News, Summer Bible Study, Potato Bar, BBS .....	Page 11
Worship Volunteers .....	Pages 12 & 13
Backpack Blessings, Blessing of Keys, Baptism.....	Page 14
Birthdays, Anniversaries, Blood Drive, Food Panty .....	Page 15



**Grace-Gifted, Faith-Lifted**  
**Called to Share, Seek, and Serve Christ**

## Dear Friends in Christ,

It has been a busy summer, but there has been so much good happening in and through this place!! We have been sharing the good news of Jesus and sharing God's love in all kinds of ways. In worship, we have experienced God's love for us and heard Jesus' call to us to live our lives as disciples, sharing God's love with the world. We have gone out in the world to show compassion to those who are in need, even when we are not the people they most expect or desire compassion from. We have been learning about how others live and about how God's power lives so that we can live with courage, boldness, kindness, thankfulness and hope, all of which are needed in these days and times.



Our "Vector Verse" or the theme verse for our "To Mars and Beyond" VBS was "Glory to God who is able to do far beyond all that we could ask or imagine by his power at work within us" (Ephesians 3:20). It hit me this week that that verse sums up this summer. God's power at work within us has allowed us all to do more than we can ask or imagine in all of the ways that we have shared God's love in the world.

We are currently making about 400 lunches per week for the North Scott Community Feed Our Children Ministry, and we have just added back a site that we closed last year. We have had amazing volunteers from families to sports teams to community organizations to our faithful every day volunteers who have made this possible and helped us to continue to expand. The smiles on children's faces, the "thank you"s that we receive, the joy of getting to know others in our community as we work to put lunches together each week reminds me that God's power makes this possible, and while we hoped, in the beginning, that this ministry would be successful, God has taken it beyond what any of us would have imagined when we started!!

On the mission trip to South Dakota, our kids found out just what God's power can do. From overcoming fears in the beginning, being in a new place, among new people, in a culture we did not yet understand to doing all kinds of jobs to tear off and replace a roof, make signs and create a cement floor for a storage shed, we all learned that God gives us the power and the gifts to do things we never thought we would do. I can tell you that there were some in our group who never imagined that they would be standing on the top of a roof of a bunk house using drills and nail guns to weatherproof a roof so that youth in that community could have a warm and safe place to worship God during the winter. Others never imagined using a circular saw to cut wood down to the right lengths to make signs for the Chanku Waste Ranch. I definitely never imagined that I would learn how to mix and lay cement and actually get it mostly level so that the camp would have a safe place to store water and other supplies. And I am not sure any of us knew how amazing it would feel to show God's love to the community of Sharp's Corners as we put mulch on the playground, did 2

Birthday wishes are extended to the following members who are celebrating birthday number 70 or above.



# August

BIRTHDAYS

David Griffin	August 5
Betty Griffin	August 7
Jackie Snyder	August 8
Deloris Schatz	August 9
Harold Nelson	August 12
Connie Braet	August 21
Doug Garner	August 22
Vi Westphal	August 26
George Braden	August 30



ANNIVERSARIES

Rob & Pam White 8/3/1968



## Blood Drive

**Monday, August 12**

Faith Lutheran Church will be hosting a Blood Drive with the Mississippi Valley

Regional Blood Center from **3 pm to 6:30 pm** at the church. The need for blood increases during the summer months. Please mark the calendar and consider donation.

## MISSIONARY SPONSORSHIP

Thank you to Sue Sissel for sponsoring our missionaries Patrick and Jackie Bencke, Japan, our Compassion Child, John Chima, as well as our Compassion Child, Denisse Grefa, for August.



The cost for sponsorship is \$40/month each for John and Denisse and \$45/month for Patrick and Jackie Bencke. Your sponsorship can be placed in the offering plate, in a pew envelope marked appropriately for the person you are sponsoring.



## THE NORTH SCOTT FOOD PANTRY NEEDS FOR AUGUST:

**Canned Meats, Hot & Cold Cereal  
Fruit**



## Backpack Blessing and Blessing of Teachers & School Workers

On the weekend of **August 17 and 18**, we invite all children and youth who are starting back to school to bring their backpacks to worship at 5:00 pm on Saturday or 9:00 am on Sunday. During the

Children's message, we will do a blessing of backpacks to pray God's blessing on the backpacks and on the children who will wear them this year. We will then

offer a blessing over the teachers, administrators, bus drivers, janitors, kitchen staff and others as they prepare to head back to school.

### August 2019

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
				1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	31



## Grade Faith Milestone-

### Blessing of the Keys

As our children begin high school, there are many milestones that they will begin to come across. One of

those milestones is learning to drive, from getting the permit to driver's ed to getting a license. We would like to help these youth and parents to mark that milestone in worship with a "Blessing of the Keys". On **Sunday, August 18**, during the 9:00 am worship service, we will invite all 9th graders to come forward with their parents as we pray over them and provide them with a small token to mark this time in their lives. We will also be providing each family with a sample "contract" which can help families to have conversation around proper use of the car. We hope that all of our 9th Grade youth and families will be present for this milestone as we begin this new school year.



**BAPTISMS IN JULY:** We welcome these children into the Body of Christ and into our Faith family through the sacrament of Holy Baptism:  
 7/21 **Carter Lee Messerich**, son of Michael and Abby Messerich. Carter's sponsors were Nathan Messerich and Anna Moenk.

some yardwork for some residents, and found the volleyball court again so that the children could play. It was God's power in us that kept us going and doing things that we had never imagined, and it was God's power that appeared to us in ways that we could not have asked for as we experienced the beauty of the big sky in the South Dakota Badlands.

In VBS, we learned about how God's power allows us to go beyond in our interactions with the people around us. We learned to go beyond with courage, boldness, kindness, thankfulness and hope, trusting God to go with us in all that we do. In a world that is as divided as ours seems to be in these times, teaching our children another way, the way of God's love in the world, is a way to change the world right where we are.

This coming week, I am certain that our campers will continue to experience that same power of God working in them as we explore Transformed Community throughout the week. We will learn about how Jesus calls us to be inclusive, compassionate, just, forgiving, and generous. Again, in the society in which we live, God gives us the power to live in a different way, and gives us the ability to include all people, show compassion and justice, forgive one another and be generous to all, even when it is hard to do. I look forward to seeing how God's power moves and changes these youth and adults throughout this week.

I hope that you are all following all of the busyness around here on Facebook, and that you are taking advantage of the opportunities to hear about these and other ministries where God's power is moving in and through us to do more than we could ask or imagine. I pray that as we head back into the school year, these experiences of the summer will go with us and, inspired by the God who gave it all for us in the life, death and resurrection of Jesus, we continue to use God's power in us to make a difference right where we are so that we can change the world together.

Blessings,

*Pastor Carrie*

## RALLY DAY PANCAKE BREAKFAST: SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 8, AT 9:15 AM

Welcome back to Sunday School! We are looking forward to seeing you all at the

Pancake Breakfast **Sunday, September 8, at 9:15 am in the Fellowship Hall.** During the breakfast, we will catch up on the summer, talk about how Sunday School will work this year, hand out schedules including the Milestone Ministries, and have numerous opportunities for adults to sign up in supporting roles for this upcoming Sunday school year. If you have not checked out the updated church website, please find us at [www.faithlutheranelldridge.com](http://www.faithlutheranelldridge.com) We will be using this to make it easy for people to sign up to help with various Sunday School activities. If you would like to help teach or lead any portion of Sunday School, please use the link found on our church website to sign up where your gifts can be best used.





# Children's News



**Saturday, August 17th @ 5:00 pm**

<b>Greeters:</b>	Brad & Janet Merrick
<b>Ushers:</b>	Rob & Pam White
<b>Reader:</b>	Harold Nelson
<b>Communion</b>	Carol Kuehl
<b>Counters:</b>	Mike & Rita Smith



**Sunday, August 18th @ 9:00 am**

<b>Greeters:</b>	Carol Roe
<b>Ushers:</b>	Jim & Donna Gruenhagen
<b>Reader:</b>	Ida Weibel
<b>Communion</b>	Donna Gruenhagen
<b>Counters:</b>	Mike & Annette Tomlinson

**Saturday, August 24th @ 5:00 pm**

<b>Greeters:</b>	Bill Wittkowski
<b>Ushers:</b>	Bob & Carol Kuehl
<b>Reader:</b>	Donna Darnall
<b>Communion</b>	Pam White
<b>Counters:</b>	Bob & Carol Kuehl



**Sunday, August 25th @ 9:00 am**

<b>Greeters:</b>	Tim Broberg
<b>Ushers:</b>	Myron & Carolyn Scheibe
<b>Reader:</b>	Linda Miller
<b>Communion</b>	Carolyn Scheibe
<b>Counters:</b>	Ryan & Amy Murray



**Saturday, August 31st @ 9:00 am**

<b>Greeters:</b>	Mary Jo McVey
<b>Ushers:</b>	The La Plante Family
<b>Reader:</b>	Ida Weibel
<b>Communion</b>	Abby La Plante
<b>Counters:</b>	Curt & Carolyn Hulsen







**AUGUST FAITH FAMILY: Group 7**  
**Family Head: Ida Weibel**  
**September Family Group 6 - Joni Schneider**

**Saturday August 3rd @ 5:00 pm**

<b>Greeters:</b>	Janet Bowman
<b>Ushers:</b>	Sheila Lee & Brad Merrick
<b>Reader:</b>	Harold Nelson
<b>Communion</b>	Mike Staple
<b>Counters:</b>	Mike & Gayle Staples



**Sunday, August 4th @ 9:00 am**

<b>Greeters:</b>	Duane & Linda Miller
<b>Ushers:</b>	Alexis & Bryan Yanke
<b>Reader:</b>	Jim Schneider
<b>Communion</b>	Alexis Yanke
<b>Counters:</b>	Dan & Mary Ann Anderson



**Saturday, August 10th @ 5:00 pm**

<b>Greeters:</b>	Sue Braack
<b>Ushers:</b>	Jim & Donna Gruenhagen
<b>Reader:</b>	Sue Sissel
<b>Communion</b>	Donna Gruenhagen
<b>Counters:</b>	Sue Sissel & Kelly Hazen



**Sunday, August 11th @ 9:00 am**

<b>Greeters:</b>	Ron & Jane Bainter
<b>Ushers:</b>	Doug & Michelle Olson
<b>Reader:</b>	Joni Schneider
<b>Communion</b>	Joni Schneider
<b>Counters:</b>	Ken & Sue Oetzmman



**A HUGE THANK YOU TO THE VOLUNTEERS at TO MARS AND BEYOND Vacation Bible School! Mission Commander - Amy Powell, EP3-20 Puppet— Pastor Carrie; Storyteller—Jim Schneider; Mission Leader-Pastor Heather; Drama Characters— Logan Lee, Jennie Garner, Austin Lee, Derick Cudd, Katie Garner; Music Leaders-Kelly Penning and Kelli Frank; Science Leader-Denise Westendorf, Katie Garner, Elliott Schroeder; Recreation-Carrie Keppy, Megan Sacia, Drew Sacia; Craft Leaders-Diane Krebs, Cindy Zabel, Sarah Costello; Decorators-Amy Powell, Diane Krebs, Jackson Tagtmeier; Kitchen Leader-Lynda Miller, Carol Judge, Tiffany Goff, Ellen Bloomingdale, Carol Marten, Chris Copley, Sherri Brundies; Preschool— Michelle Rasmussen, Carolyn Lewis, Amanda Strom, Abby LaPlante; PreK-Emma Powell, Marla Zabel, Zach Powell; Kindergarten-Holly Deserano, Jennie Garner, Lisa Garner; First Grade-Grace Kirst, Cooper Frank; Second Grade-Sarah Peck, Erin Peck; Third Grade-Julie Drury, Sydney Westendorf, Madolyn Lewis; Fourth Grade-Michelle Mess, Maisie Knutsen; Fifth Grade-Sue Kirst; Registration-Joni Johnson, Ellen Bloomingdale, Tracy Lindaman; AV-John Powell, Logan Lee; Nursery-Ryan & Amanda Strom; Photographer-Pastor Carrie.**



# Sr. High Youth Mission Trip



## Women of Faith News

### AUGUST ALTAR GUILD

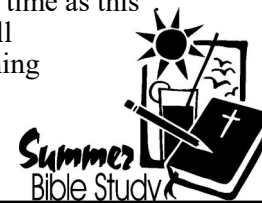
Chairperson: Linda Szemkus

Nina Looney  
Jackie Snyder  
Carol Kuehl  
Sally Hamann  
Cindy Staebell  
LeAnne Cota  
Kris Schwein

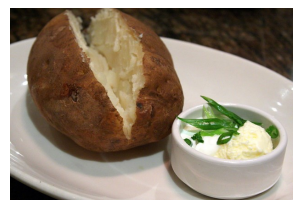


### Join the Women of Faith for a Summer Bible Study on Saturday, August 31, from 9 am - 2 pm.

The three sessions Bible Study from the Gather magazine is "For such a time as this - Lessons from Esther". We will explore the book of Esther. While reflecting on the life of this young queen, her experiences in a king's court, and the challenge issued her by her adopted father, Mordecai, we will consider how God may be calling us to use our own voices "for such a time as this". Morning refreshments will be served at 9 am. Lunch will be a salad buffet, dessert, iced tea and coffee. For planning purposes, a sign-up is on the bulletin board. We hope to see you there!



### COME TO FAITH LUTHERAN'S POTATO BAR DINNER SATURDAY, AUGUST 3, 2019 AT 6:00 P.M.



**UP IN FELLOWSHIP HALL**  
Remember, Sunday goes.....you can  
come to dinner at 6:00 p.m. too.  
No potluck, just come and enjoy.

### BEER, BIBLE STUDY



**Wednesday, August 14th at 7:30 pm.**  
Hosted by Jared and Kelly Penning  
1640 Wisconsin Street, LeClaire, IA.  
We'd love for you to join us!



## High School Youth Group Kick-Off

It is hard to believe that we are heading back into the school year, but as we do, we also head into a new year of Youth Group. In order to get the year kicked off, we invite all high school youth and their parents to join us for a conversation about plans for the year, including how often we would like to meet, the kinds of activities we would like to do, and what kind of mission trip we would like to take this coming summer. We will meet on **Sunday, August 25, immediately following worship (approximately 10:15 am).** Following our conversation, the youth will go for lunch and a mystery event. Please bring \$10 to help cover costs. In order to ensure that we have enough drivers for the event, please RSVP to Pastor Carrie ([pastorcarrie@csteldridge.com](mailto:pastorcarrie@csteldridge.com) or 285-4501) by **Friday, August 23**. We encourage you to invite friends. More information will be coming in a letter soon. See you there!



## A New Year for Confirmation

 It is time to begin our Confirmation Conversations again, so it is time to have a **mandatory student/parent meeting and pizza party.** Therefore, all 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> Graders and their parents and siblings are invited to a pizza party and Confirmation kick-off meeting on **Wednesday, August 28, at 6:00 pm.** At this meeting we will go over expectations and opportunities for the year as well as the calendar of events. There will be a formal letter coming in the mail with more information, so for now, please just save the date and time for the meeting, and please let Pastor Carrie know how many from your family will be coming so that we can be sure to have enough food for everyone at [pastorcarrie@csteldridge.com](mailto:pastorcarrie@csteldridge.com) or 285-4501 by **Sunday, August 25.** We look forward to seeing you there.

P.S. Our first week of the regular class schedule will be the following **Wednesday, September 4,** beginning with a meal at 5:00 pm and our Confirmation Conversations from 5:30-6:45 pm.

Thank you to the volunteers in July that helped fold bulletins, announcements and the Ambassador. Due to knee surgery, I will be out of the office beginning August 22nd until September 16. If you are able to help out Pastor Carrie and Pastor Heather by being in the office from 9 - Noon, we would appreciate it! There is a sign up sheet on the office door. Thank You. Joni



**Shares of the Mission Trip**-Thank you to all supported the trip through the purchase of shares. The shareholder luncheon will be held on **Sunday, August 18th at noon** in the Fellowship Hall. Formal invitations will be forthcoming.

# AUGUST 2019

# FAITH LUTHERAN CHURCH

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
				<b>1</b> 10-12:30 Feed Our Children 6:30 pm Team Night 	<b>2</b> 9:30 am Food Pantry	<b>3</b> 5:00 pm Worship 6:00 pm Potato Bar Supper in FH 
<b>4</b> 9:00 am Worship	<b>5</b>	<b>6</b> 10-12:30 Feed Our Children 5:30 pm Food Pantry 	<b>7</b>	<b>8</b> 10-12:30 Feed Our Children 6:30 pm WOF Board Mtg. 	<b>9</b> 9:30 am Food Pantry	<b>10</b> 5:00 pm Worship
<b>11</b> 9:00 am Worship 6:30 pm Serving Sticks	<b>12</b>	<b>13</b> 10-12:30 Feed Our Children 5:30 pm Food Pantry 	<b>14</b> 10:00 Worship at Grand Haven 7:30 pm Beer, Bible Study at Jared & Kelly Penning's Home 	<b>15</b> 10-12:30 Feed Our Children 7:00 pm Council Meeting 	<b>16</b> 9:30 am Food Pantry	<b>17</b> 5:00 pm Worship & Backpack/Teacher/School Worker Blessing 
<b>18</b> 9:00 am Worship & Backpack/Teacher/School Worker Blessing Blessing of the Keys Noon - Mission Trip Shareholder Lunch in FH  	<b>19</b>	<b>20</b> 10-12:30 Feed Our Children 5:30 pm Food Pantry 	<b>21</b>	<b>22</b> 10-12:30 pm Feed Our Children 	<b>23</b> 9:00 am Ambassador Deadline 9:30 am Food Pantry	<b>24</b> 5:00 pm Worship
<b>25</b> 9:00 am Worship 10:15 am HS Youth Group Kick Off  6:30 pm Serving Sticks	<b>26</b>	<b>27</b> 5:30 pm Food Pantry	<b>28</b> 6:00 pm Student/Parent/Family Confirmation Kick Off Pizza Party 	<b>29</b> 9:00 am Ambassador Folding	<b>30</b> 9:30 am Food Pantry	<b>31</b> 9 am - 2 pm WOF Summer Bible Study 5:00 pm Worship 