

Non-Profit

Organization PERMIT NO. 1

Worship Hours: Saturday @ 5:00 pm Sunday @ 8:00 am & 10:30 am Sunday School @ 9:15 am

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

Elandge, IA 22/48 ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED



Faith Lutheran Church



AMBASSADOR

November 2019

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

500 W. LeClaire Road Eldridge, IA 52748 (563) 285-4501 www.faithlutheraneldridge.com faitheldridge@netins.net

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Grace-Gifted Faith-Lifted Called to share, seek, and serve Christ

Dear Friends in Christ,

It seems a bit unbelievable that we are already entering into November and the very end of the 2019 calendar year. And yet, this is one of my favorite times of year because it offers us the opportunity to reflect on the year that has passed, the joys and the heartaches, and we are given time to give thanks for all that God has provided for us this year through all that we have experienced.

As I was looking at the readings assigned for All Saints Sunday, the reading from Paul's letter to the Ephesians rang true for me. Paul writes:

I have heard of your faith in the Lord Jesus and your love toward all the saints, and for this reason I do not cease to give thanks for you as I remember you in my prayers. I pray that the God of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of glory, may give you a spirit of wisdom and revelation as you come to know him, so that, with the eyes of your heart enlightened, you may know what is the hope to which he has called you, what are the riches of his glorious inheritance among the saints, and what is the immeasurable greatness of his power for us who believe, according to the working of his great power. (Ephesians 1:15-19)

As I think back over this year, with all of the ministry that we have done together, I give thanks for all of you, and I pray for you.

I have seen the spirit of wisdom and revelation come alive in our children as they learn more about God's love for each of us and they seek to share that love with others, especially as they challenged themselves to provide so many barnyard animals for people around the world so that they might have sustainable farming. I have seen the eyes of our youth's hearts enlightened as they have struggled through the challenges of digging into the book of Job in light of the challenges that they face in life, and finding such hope in the promises of God that they have been actively seeking to share that hope with their friends by inviting them to come and see what this hope of Jesus is all about. I have seen the hope to which we have been called in all of us who have sought to share God's love through teaching and mentoring, serving lunches to children and dinner to the homeless, who seek ways to make worship more accessible to all and desire to write a mission statement that speaks our hope in Christ for the world to hear. I have seen the riches of God's glorious inheritance as we have given thanks for the lives of the saints among us this year, remembering how each of them have touched our lives, taught us about God's love, and left something of themselves behind as a reminder that we are all gathered as God's saints throughout time. I have seen the working of God's great power in and through this place for the life of the world around us through all of our outreach to the community, including our homecoming tailgate and Final Friday celebrations.

God's Spirit is alive and at work in this place and in all of you as you as you live into the identity that was given to you in your baptism, when you were "marked with the seal of the promised Holy Spirit" (*Ephesians 1:13*). And as we begin to think about the year ahead, I am excited to imagine all of the



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

Richard Puls	November 3	Myra Kreiter	November 11
Shirley Stoltenberg	November 3	Mike Staples	November 16
Ardell Kraft	November 5	Velda Arp	November 17
Mary Ann Andersor	n November 7	Myra Tunwall	November 26
Sharon Goldsmith	November 8	Mary Arp	November 30

11/16/1962 Ron & Nancy Meyer 11/22/1958 Dick & Shirley Cole 11/30/1963 Ron & Mary Arp



MISSIONARY SPONSORSHIP Thank you to Myron and Carolyn Scheibe for sponsoring our Compassion Children, John Chima; and Denisse Grefa as well as our missionaries, the Bencke family in Japan, during November. The cost for sponsorship is \$40/month for each John and Denisse and \$45/month for the Bencke family.



During October we welcomed to our Faith family through the waters of baptism Kalob Michael James Kroeger. He is the son of Erich and BilliJo Kroeger. His sponsors were Joe and Jamie Kroeger. God's Blessings to all!



AMBASSADOR FOLDING TEAM: On Thursday, November 21st, we will be folding and mailing the Ambassador for December. So very thankful for all who come and help. Feel free to join us, it's fun! Joni Johnson, Office Mgr.

THE NORTH SCOTT FOOD PANTRY

The North Scott Food Pantry's needs for November: Chili Fixings, Crackers & Muffin Mixes.



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Saturday, November 16 @ 5:00 pm



		_
Greeters:	Donna Benskin	Saturday
Ushers:	Gary & Joni King	Open & Close Joni King
Reader:	Joni King	Sunday
Communion	Gary King	Open-Joni S. Close-Michelle
Counters:	Roger & Barb Parmenter	R.

8:	:00 am S	unday, No	vember 17	10:30 am
Greeters:	Connie Braet		Greeters:	Peggy Russo
Ushers:	Sacia Family		Ushers:	Mike Tomlinson & Hayden Matzen
Reader:	Neal Becker		Reader:	Neal Becker
Communion:	Sacia Family		Communion:	Annette Tomlinson
Counters:	David & Linda G	olinghorst	Counters:	Keving Lee & Kristy Looney

Saturday, November 23@ 5:00 pm



Greeters:	Janet Bowman
Ushers:	Myron & Carolyn Scheibe
Reader:	**
Communion	Sue Sissel
Counters:	Dennis & Joan Hennigan

Saturday
Open & Close
Melody S.
Sunday
Open-Carrie K.
Close-Linda G.

8:	00 am Sunday, N	lovember 24	10:30 am
Greeters:	Glen & Jean Keppy	Greeters:	Jackie Snyder
Ushers:	Dennis & Janet Krambeck	Ushers:	Sacia Family
Reader: **		Reader:	Sacia Family
Communion	Carol Roe	Communion	Sacia Family
Counters:	Koralee Patzer & Tim Winter	Counters:	Eric & Stephanie Sacia

Saturday, November 30@ 5:00 pm



Greeters:	Sue Braack	Saturday
Ushers:	**	Open & Close Joni King
Reader:	**	**see
Communion	**	bottom of page 13
Counters:	Melody Sawvell & Kelly Hazen	14

ways in which God's wisdom and revelation, God's promise and power, will continue to blow through this place and each one of you as we continue to share the hope of Christ with the world. Just looking through the pages of this Ambassador helps us to catch glimpses of God's life and power alive in this place. For this, I give thanks and praise.

I also want to take this opportunity, on behalf of both Pastor Heather and me, to thank you for your generosity during "Pastor Appreciation Month." We have been humbled and blessed by the gifts and the cards, the pictures and the notes, the well-wishes and the gratitude expressed by all of you. We give thanks to God for calling us to serve together in this place at this time, and for calling us to serve as your pastors. You are all a blessing to us as we discern the mission that God is calling us to together as the Holy Spirit calls, gathers and enlightens us. I do not believe that it is by accident that we are gathered in this place at this time, and I am grateful for the opportunity to be here with you.

I pray that in this time of Thanksgiving, you and your families have the opportunity to stop and look back over the year, and see where God has been walking with you, leading you, and guiding you through this year. I pray that you are able to join with family and friends to celebrate in the days ahead. And I give thanks for each and every one of you and for the important part that you play in the body of

Christ, not only in this place, but in the life of the world.

Blessed Thanksgiving to you all!

Pastor Carrie

Financial Update: Thanksgiving is a great time to thank you for your stewardship this year. First, we want to thank you for your giving which has already helped us to begin to close the gap that summer created. However, with all of the wonderful ministry we have been about this year, our income is still a bit behind our expenses for this year. We would ask that, if you are behind where you wanted to be in your giving at this time of year, you would please consider how you might bring your giving up to your desired amount. If you are considering where you might gift some additional income, please consider making an extra gift to Faith. You all are a blessing to this congregation and community. Wishing you thanksgiving blessings!

FINANCIAL UPDATE	Year-to-Date September 2019	Year-to-Date September 2018
Operating Income	\$244,477.14	\$236,717.40
Operating Expense	\$256,315.19	\$241,310.86
Income (Loss)	(\$11,838.05)	(\$4,593.46)



4th graders: Kids and Money Milestone

On November 3rd, during the Sunday School hour we are bringing parents and kids together for this important milestone opportunity. Pastor Carrie will lead this class for 4th grade families during the learning hour. Kids will be recognized, blessed and gifted during our 10:30am Family Worship Service.

Christmas Program Rehearsals



Christmas Program rehearsals will begin during Sunday School during the month of November. The Christmas Program will be held during the 10:30 worship service on **Sunday**, **December 16th**. A congregational breakfast will precede between services that day.

Jr. Hig

On Wednesday, September 25, the Confirmation Small Groups participated in their Stewardship/Fellowship Event for the month, a Food Pantry Scavenger Hunt. In just under an hour, they collected 354 items totaling 352 pounds of food, as well as \$186, all for the North Scott Food Pantry.









On October 16th the Confirmation Youth went to Bowlmor for a night of fellowship and silliness!!













8:00 am

NOVEMBER FAITH FAMILY: Group 9 Family Head: Mike & Annette Tomlinson December Family Group 10: Amy Murray

Saturday November 2 @ 5:00 pm



Greeters:	Sue Sissel	Saturday-2nd Amy Murray Open & Close Sunday-3rd Linda
Ushers:	Gary & Joni King	
Reader:	Sue Braack	
Communion	Sue Braack	Golinghorst Open
Counters:	Scott & Laura Wiley	~ P •

Sunday, November 3

10:30 am

Greeters:	Carol Marten	Greeters:	Tom & Beth Bylund
Ushers:	Dennis & Janet Krambeck	Ushers:	Mike & Annette Tomlinson
Reader:	Neal Becker	Reader:	Mike Tomlinson
Communion:	**	Communion	Annette Tomlinson
Counters:	Carol Judge, Michelle Reimler	Counters:	Kent & Ann Stickler

Saturday, November 9 @ 5:00 pm



Greeters:	Lorenz & Marian Behrens	Saturday-9th Need
Ushers:	Sue Sissel & Pam White	Open & Clos
Reader:	Neal Becker	Sunday-10th Mike Garner
Communion	Michelle Weltzin-Trainor	Open Linda
Counters:	Sue Sissel & Kelly Hazen	Golinghorst- Close

Sunday-10th Mike Garner Open Linda Golinghorst-Close

Open & Close

Sunday, November 10

8:00 am	10:30	am

Greeters:	Duane & Lynda Miller	Greeters:	Tom & Pam Carlson	
Ushers:	Carol Roe & Karen Schmitt	Ushers:	Carrie & Hayden Matzen	
Reader:	Neal Becker	Reader:	**	
Communion	Nancy Meyer	Communion	Diane Krebs	
Counters:	Dan & Mary Ann Anderson	Counters:	Ryan & Amy Murray	

**IF YOU ARE ABLE TO FILL IN ANY OF THE OPENINGS IN THE WORSHIP SERVER SCHEDULE, PLEASE CALL THE CHURCH OFFICE @ 285-4501. THANK YOU!

November 10th Congregational Breakfast: "Serving Up God's Word and Good Food"

Our next Congregational Breakfast is **November 10th**. We will be introducing the music for the Children's Christmas Program and sending home copies for you to practice at home. Our children's mission for the months of November and December is to learn to share the story of Christ's birth with others. It is Jesus birthday on Christmas day, this is important to our faith.

The sign up for our November coordinated potluck is located outside the sanctuary doors. We are looking for members to contribute to the meal through gifts of food and service. The menu for the morning is: breakfast casserole, fresh fruit, pastries, yogurt, milk and juice. Thank you in advance for supporting our shared life together! And joining in sharing the story and songs of our Savior's birth.

Upcoming breakfast dates: 12/15/19, 1/5/19, 2/919, 3/8/19 and 4/12/19 Remember breakfast events begin at 9:15am



Thanksgiving Offerings at Faith will be split between Lutheran Lakeside Camp and North Scott Dance Marathon to benefit Stead Children's Hospital in Iowa City.



Community Thanksgiving Worship Hosted by the North Scott Clergy Group Sunday, November 24, 2019, 4:00 pm Cornerstone Baptist Church

Join us for the annual Community Thanksgiving Service at Cornerstone Baptist Church, as we gather to give thanks to God for the many blessings of this year and share in worship and fellowship with our friends and neighbors from other congregations. The offering for the evening will be split between the World Relief in Moline supporting refugees and to offset shipping costs for local Operation Christmas Child boxes. We hope that you will be a part of this community celebration.









High School Youth



Mission Trip Update

At this time, we have 30 youth and six adults registered for the summer mission trip to West Virginia.

As we lead up to this trip, we will be doing some fundraising to help finance the trip. Here are some of the ongoing and upcoming fundraising efforts.

- ♦ Best Choice Save-A-Label—We continue to collect UPC symbols from Best Choice products. Each label is worth three cents. There is a box in the Gathering Space where these will be collected. We recently received a check for \$30 for that effort.
- ◆ Cinnamon Roll Sunday—Back by popular demand, we will be making and selling homemade cinnamon rolls on Saturday and Sunday, December 7 and 8. More information will be coming.

Thank you in advance for your financial and prayer support!



November High School Event

On **Sunday, November 10th** the High School Youth Group will hold their monthly event immediately following the 10:30 pm worship service (approximately 11:45 am). We will go out for lunch and then to Helium for some bouncing good times. Please bring \$20 (and your Helium

socks) to help cover costs. Friends are always welcome!!

Let Pastor Carrie know if you are planning to go by Wednesday, November 6, so that we can be sure that we have enough drivers.



ELCA Youth Leadership Summit October 31st—November 3rd, 2019 Lutheridge Conference Center Arden, North Carolina

Grace Kirst and Austin Lee will be travelling to North Carolina as representatives of the Southeastern Iowa Synod at the ELCA Youth Leadership Summit. James Schneider will accompany as the adult Synodical Representative to the Summit. Through the peer ministry training the participants will learn how to be careful listeners, to guide healthy and purposeful conversations, to clarify concerns and values, to ask open-ended questions and make observations, and know when a task is too large and how to ask for help. The theme for this year is Ephesians 4:11-13 which is about God equipping his people for works of service. We look forward to hearing about new ideas and opportunities to help our youth grow and thrive.

CHRISTMAS CANTATA



Light is essential for life here on Earth. For centuries, it has been used as a metaphorical theme in art and literature, and is mentioned more then 230 times in the Bible. "The Promise of Light", this



year's Christmas cantata, is a músical celebration of God's gift of eternal light to

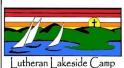
mankind. With a unique blend of traditional Christmas carols and original music, composer Joel Raney has put together an outstanding musical which tells the timeless story of the birth of Christ---the Light of the World. Come hear the Senior Choir and friends as they present this beautiful Christmas cantata on Sunday, December 8, at the 10:30 worship service.





Coming soon! A new much more readable digital sign. It is being purchased with non-designated memorial money and placed on the existing brick sign and planter.

Summer Camp Registration is Open!!



Registration for summer camp at Lutheran Lakeside, Spirit Lake, Iowa, is open. We will be going the week of July 26-31. There is Junior Camp for those who have completed grades 3-5 and Confirmation Camp for those who have completed grades 6-8. Everyone needs to reg-

ister on the Lutheran Lakeside website (www.lutheranlakeside.com). Faith will pay \$150 of the registration fee for every youth registered through Faith, and there is an Early Bird discount of \$50 for those who register by February 28th.

We also hope that a number of adults will join us on the Adult Mission Trip to camp that same week. Please see Pastor Carrie for more details.

Women of Faith News

ALL WOMEN OF FAITH...

ARE INVITED TO JOIN A GROUP OR CALL A LEADER FOR MORE INFORMATION.



Women of Faith Board-Nov. 14 at 6:30 pm

Serving Sticks-Nov. 10 & 24 at 6:30 pm

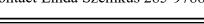
Quilts of Many Colors.Nov. 19 at 9:00 am



Lydia Group - Thurs., Nov. 21 at 7:00 pm

Contact Linda Szemkus 285-9788

NOVEMBER ALTAR GUILD



Chairperson: Janet Merrick

Magda Brodersen Carolyn Lewis Ruth Staudt

Donna Benskin

Kim Brodersen



Everyone is invited to an Advent Brunch on Saturday, December 14. 2019, starting at 9:30 am, for fellowship and service. We will be serving breakfast casseroles, pastries, fruit, coffee and tea. After the brunch we will prepare over 30 plates of cookies for our shut-ins and those needing some TLC> If you would like to donate cookies for this project, bring them with you to the brunch or leave them in the kitchen prior to December 14. After preparing the cookie plates, there will be a make it and take it Christmas crafts available for all ages. For planning purposes there is a sign up sheet on the bulletin board.

Women of WELCA Stamp Project

The Women of Southeast Iowa Synod Board's stewardship challenge for this year is to collect cancelled postage stamps. We need you and anyone you know to save your cancelled postage stamps. When trimming off envelopes, leave 1/4" around the stamp so as not to damage it. We will collect them and send to a distribution center who in turn sends the money back to go to Lutheran World Relief to provide fundraising for the shipping of quilts and kits around the world to those in need. It takes 27,000 stamps to make 1 pound of stamps. They have collected 65 million so far and sent \$42,000 to the shipping fund! 11

Constitution and Bylaws Update

The Congregation Council has made it a priority this year to update our Constitution and Bylaws. The last known update was 12 years ago. The Synod's Model Constitution is updated every 3 years and council thought it important to review and update Faith's constitution and bylaws to follow Synod guidelines since it hasn't been done in so long.

Thank you to the Committee for all the hard work at reviewing our existing documents, the Synod's model and carefully considering the updates that would change the way we do things here at Faith. Committee members include Linda and Dave Golinghorst, Amy Powell, Jim Schneider, Gary King, Carrie Keppy and Pastor Carrie.

The Synod is currently reviewing the updates that have been made and it will be made available to the congregation once we know the document meets Synod guidelines and council has completed a reviewed.

The process of approving and ratifying a new constitution will require two Congregational meetings. The first meeting (January 12th) will be for consideration of the updated constitution and approval. The second meeting will be the annual meeting (January 26th) where one of the orders of business will be to ratify the document.



YOU ARE INVITED TO CELEBRATE!!

What: Myra Tunwall's 99th Birthday
Open House

When: Sunday, November 24th Time: 1:00 - 3:00 pm

Where: Grand Haven Retirement Eldridge, Iowa

You may send birthday wishes to Myra at:

Myra Tunwall

201 E. Franklin Street-#408 Eldridge, IA 52748





Synod Showing of *Gridshock*

Monday, November 18, 6:00 pm, Faith Lutheran Church In August 2019, the ELCA Churchwide Assembly adopted the social statement, *Faith, Sexism, and Justice: A Call to Action*, wherein the church lays out a vision for a just and equitable society free from the sins of sexism and patriarchy. There are a number of ways in which the church is going about speaking out for the sake

of all people, as we are all affected by these sins, including joining with the World Council of Churches' *Thursdays in Black* Campaign. One way that we will support the educational effort of helping all of us to better understand these issues right around us is through hosting a Southeastern Iowa Synod showing of the award-winning documentary, *Gridshock*, about human trafficking in Iowa on **Monday**, **November 18, at 6:00 pm here at Faith.** Please join us as we learn together about how we can cast a vision of hope for the future.

For more information go to https://seiasynod.org/thursdays-in-black/.

Operation Christmas Child (OCC)

OCC collects shoeboxes filled with gifts and delivers them to children in need around the world. Everyone of these shoebox gifts is an opportunity for the Gospel. In the hands of local churches, it is a powerful tool for evangelism, discipleship, and multiplication Many shoebox recipients also enroll in the 12-lesson follow-up discipleship program, The Greatest Journey, where they learn to follow Christ and share Him with others. You can be a part of this worldwide effort to grow the Kingdom of God even in places where the Gospel has never been heard.

The weekend of October 7-8 the Operation Christmas Child pack a shoebox event will begin. Pick up a box or two to pack for a boy or girl along with a tag for that gender. You will be asked to select an age group to which your gift will be given. There will be a display of items that you can look at, but don't let that put limits on your own ideas. We do ask that you NOT include any toothpaste, makeup, or liquids. If you pack bars of soap, please place them in a Ziploc back to minimize the odors in the boxes.

Each box, regardless of weight, costs \$9 to ship across the world. You have the opportunity to donate to the shipping costs if you so choose. There will be a box on the display for donations. Checks should be written to Faith Lutheran Church with the note OCC.

Our goal this year is to pack at least 100 boxes. We have 100 OCC boxes, if we run out feel free to use a shoe box you may have at home and cover it in Christmas wrapping paper so that it can still be opened. A plastic shoe box could also be used. We will be tracking the shoeboxes again this year so we know where the children are that received your gifts.

The packed boxes must be brought back to the church by November 17th.

If you have any questions please call Joni Schneider at 285-5829 or Lexie Yanke (765-404-4260) .



Additional Christmas Eve Worship Service

Over the last several years we have recognized the popularity of the 4:00 pm Christmas Eve Worship Service. To better accommodate the crowds, we will be adding a 2:00 pm Christmas Eve Worship service. This service will be the same family friendly format as the 4:00 pm service.

The full schedule for Christmas Eve will be:

 $2:\!00$ pm & $4:\!00$ pm ~ Family Friendly Christmas Eve Candlelight Services $9:\!00$ pm ~ Traditional Christmas Eve Candlelight Service

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NOVEMBER 2019 FAITH LUTHERAN CHURCH

	NOVEMBER 2019 FAITH LUIHERAN CHURCH					
Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
					1 9:30 am Food Pantry	2 5:00 pm Worship & Baptism
3 All Saints Sunday 8:00 am Worship 9:15 am Sunday School 4th Grade Milestone Kids and Money 10:30 am Worship	4	5 5:30 pm Food Pantry 7:00 pm Jubilation Rehearsal	6 10:00 am Grand Haven 1:30 pm Bible Study 5-6:45 pm Conf. Meal followed by Conversations 5:15-6:00 pm Child. Choir 6:30-7:15 pm Cantata Rehearsal-Sanctuary 7:15-8:00 pm Senior Choir	7 6:30 pm Team Night	8 9:30 am Food Pantry	9 5:00 pm Jubilation Worship
3:00 am Jubilation Worship 0:15 am Congregational Breakfast & Sunday School 10:30 am Worship 11:45 am High School Youth Group 5:00 pm Sheridan 4H 6:30 pm Serving Sticks	11	12 5:30 pm Food Pantry	1:30 pm Bible Study 5-6:45 Confirmation Meal followed by Conversations 5:15-6 pm Child. Choir 6:30 –7:15 pm Cantata Rehearsal-Sanctuary 7:15-8:00 pm Senior Choir Rehearsal	14 6:30 pm Women of Faith Board Meeting	9:00 am Ambassador Deadline 9:30 am Food Pantry	16 5:00 pm Worship
8:00 am Worship 9:15 am Sunday School 10:30 am Jubilation Worship	18 6:00 pm Synod Showing of Gridshock Documentary	9:00 am Quilting Group 5:30 pm Food Pantry 7:00 pm Jubilation Rehearsal	20 1:30 pm Bible Study 5-6:45 Confirmation Meal followed by Conversations 5:15-6 pm Child. Choir 6:30-7:15 pm Cantata Rehearsal-Sanctuary 7:15-8:00 pm Sr. Choir Rehearsal	9:00 am Ambassador Folding 7:00 pm Church Council 7:00 pm Hannah & Lydia Groups 7-9:00 pm Sheridan Meadows Assoc. Mtg	9:30 am Food Pantry	23 5:00 pm Worship
Christ the King Sunday 8:00 am Worship 9:15 am Sunday School 10:30 Worship 6:00 pm Community Thanksgiving Worship	25	26 5:30 pm Food Pantry 7:00 pm Jubilation Rehearsal	NO CONFIRMATION CLASSES NO CHOIR REHEARSALS	OFFICE CLOSED THANKSGIVING!	29 OFFICE CLOSED FOOD PANTRY CLOSED	30 5:00 pm Jubilation Worship (J) Jubilation (FH) Fellowship Hall (YR) Youth Room (MP) Multi Purpose