

**Weekly Worship: Saturday @ 5:00 pm, In Person & Live Stream Online, and Sunday at 8am and 10:30am, In Person. Worship Updates will be posted on [www. faithlutheraneldridge.com](http://www.faithlutheraneldridge.com) and on our Facebook page.**

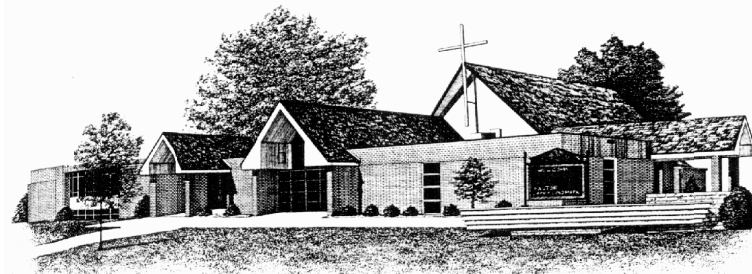
**Faith Lutheran Church**  
500 W. LeClaire Road  
Eldridge, IA 52748

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

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED



## Faith Lutheran Church



## AMBASSADOR October 2021

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

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

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



Dear Friends in Christ,

Walking with God. It is an image that many of us carry of our relationship with the Holy one. One of the first places we hear about God walking with God's people is in Genesis, Chapter 3: "During that day's cool evening breeze, [Adam and Eve] heard the sound of the LORD God walking in the garden; and the man and his wife hid themselves from the LORD God called to the man and said to him, "Where are you?" (Genesis 3:8-9). Even though we know that Adam and Eve are hiding from God because they have disobeyed and eaten from the Tree of the Knowledge of Good and Evil, nonetheless, God still desires to walk with them. Even after God sends them out of the Garden of Eden, God promises to continue to walk with them.

The truth is that God's desire to walk with God's people, including all of us, is central to who God is and how God wishes to relate to us. Even when God meets Adam and Eve in the Garden, God beckons them to walk with God. Still today, God continues to seek us out, walk in our midst, search for us, and beckon us to walk with God. Even when our faith and our lives are messy, God continues to want to walk with us, to lead us, to guide us, to protect us.

However, in this last year-and-a-half, and maybe even more, how we relate with God, the ways in which we walk with God, have been tried, have changed, have left many of us wondering how we can strengthen that walk with God once again. Now that we are all trying to settle into what our new normal will be after 18 months where nearly nothing was normal, many of us are wondering how and where our faith fits into all of this. How can we put our faith at the center of our daily lives so that, now matter what we are doing, no matter how messy life is, we can sense that we are still walking with God.

For the next six weeks during our Adult Sunday School time at 9:15 on Sunday mornings, we will be exploring five simple, yet essential, spiritual practices for living our faith. We will be using a resource entitled *The Walk: Five Essential Practices of the Christian Life* by Adam Hamilton, senior pastor of United Methodist Church of the Resurrection in Leawood, Kansas.



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

Ruth Jurgens	October 2	Connie Rohwer	October 16
Dorothy Kuhl	October 2	Geri McLaughlin	October 22
Don Stoltenberg	October 2	Dennis Kelly	October 22
Henry Storjohann	October 3	Ruth Heuer	October 23
Magda Brodersen	October 10	Delores Rathjen	October 26
Judy Koehler	October 11	Jean Hanson	October 28
Rob White	October 15	Lu Wiese	October 29



**Sharie & Doug Garner**  
October 3, 1964

**Dottie & Bud House**  
October 8, 1950

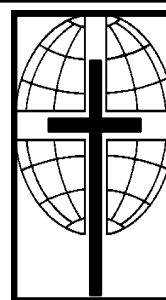


Food Pantry Needs for the month of October are soup and crackers.



## Tuesday Afternoon Bible Study

Join us on each Tuesday afternoon for a Bible study that looks at the lectionary texts for the week. **Tuesday afternoons at 1 pm.** We look forward to studying the scriptures together.



**Thank you to Tom & Pam Carlson for sponsoring the Bencke family, Joni & Jim Schneider for sponsoring John Chima, and the La Plante family for sponsoring Denisse Grefa in October.** The cost for sponsorship is \$40/month each for our Compassion Children John and Denisse and \$45/month for the Bencke family. You can sign up online on Faith's web page, or by calling the church office at 285-4501.

*Thank you for your support*



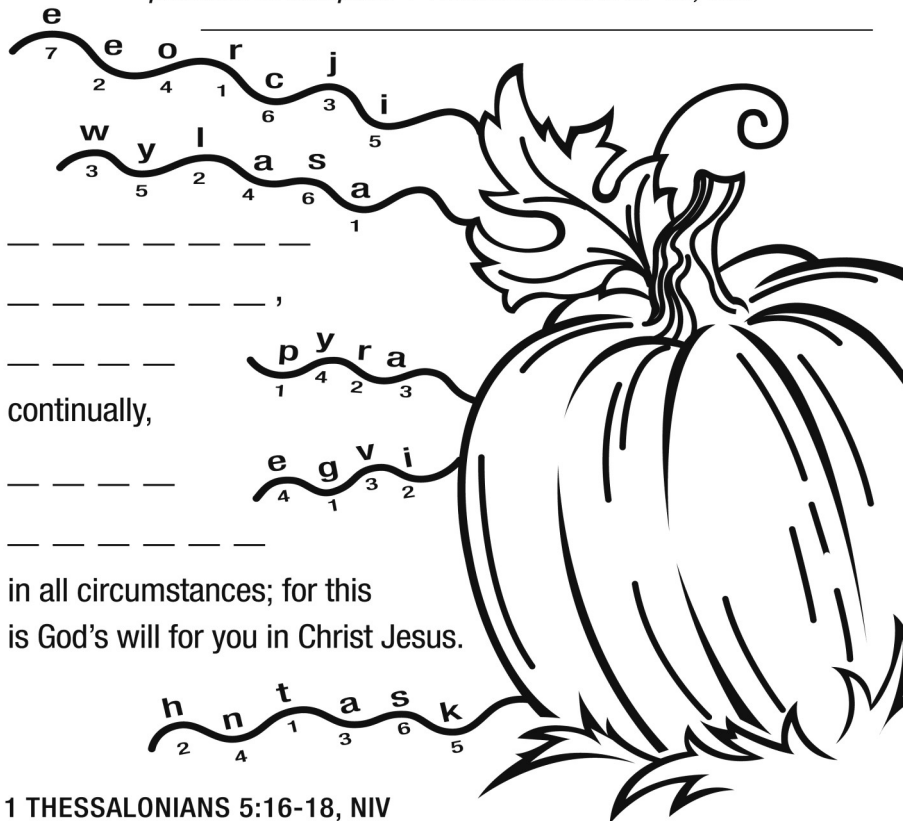
### With Appreciation...

Thank you to our September Ambassador Folding Crew: Mary Moore, Carol Judge, Carol Marten, Carol Strobbe, Tom Bauer, Donna Benskin, Sue Cassel and Sue Braack.

# GOD'S WILL

God wants us to follow his will, but how can we know what that is?

*Directions: Write the letters on each vine in the correct order on the lines provided to complete 1 Thessalonians 5:16-18, NIV.*



1 THESSALONIANS 5:16-18, NIV

Answer: rejoice, always, pray, give, thanks

In his introduction to the book, Pastor Hamilton writes:

Spiritual health is not dissimilar to our physical health. Without spiritual exercises or practices, we will find it difficult to keep up as Christ calls us to follow. We become spiritually lethargic and out of shape. We stray from God's path. Temptation is harder to resist. We don't evidence the fruit of the Spirit. We may exhibit less patience, kindness, mercy, and love. God may seem more distant, and our faith more perfunctory. We worry more as we trust God less. Our thoughts revolve more around ourselves. Our values and our priorities shift away from the things God values and prioritizes for us.

During these next six weeks, we will focus on the following spiritual practices that can help us to exercise and grow our walk with God:

October 3: Worship and Prayer: A Living Hallelujah  
 October 10: Study: The importance of Listening and Paying Attention  
 October 17: Serve: Here I Am, Lord, Send Me  
 October 24: Give: Where Your Treasure Is  
 October 31: Share: Going Fishing, Reflecting Light  
 November 7: The Five Practices from the Cross

We are making this a hybrid experience, so will be gathering in the Multipurpose Room for our Conversations on Sunday mornings; however, if you are not comfortable gathering in person or you will be out of town on a weekend and would like to join us online, you may join us on Zoom using the following link to join by computer or phone number to join by phone.

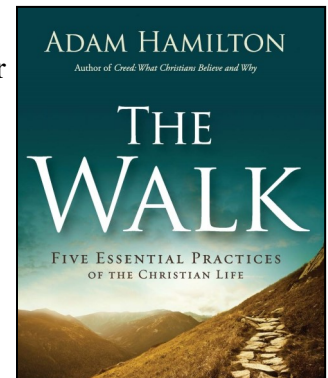
Computer: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/88200974852?pwd=U3pwVlZQMEVjemZPVXhaY1BMY0Jsdz09>

Phone: 1-312-626-6799 (Meeting ID: 882 0097 4852; Passcode: 244221)

We have some copies of the books available at church or you may purchase your own from your favorite book seller.

I look forward to exploring these spiritual practices with you as we seek to exercise and grow our faith in our daily lives together.

In Christ's love,  
*Pastor Carrie*







### Thanks!

Thank you to Nina Looney who has agreed to replace Sheila Baustian on council and as Worship and Music Team Leader through January 2022!

We are grateful for the work of the Audit Committee (Josh Rasmussen, Neal Becker, and Scott Rochau), who has caught us up on our audits for 2018-2020.

We appreciate the help of many hands to support our Rally Day and Pancake Breakfast. It was good to see our children and families back for Sunday School. The donations for our God's Work, Our Hands project for the Churches United meals are very appreciated also!

Thank you to the people who ushered for worship in the past month: Rhonda Weber, Dave & Linda Golinghorst, Jan Hartwig, Mike Garner, Joni Schneider, John & Barb Kuhl, Duane & Lynda Miller, Maddie and Abby La Plante, Kevin Lee, Austin Lee, Carol Marten, and Kerri Suiter. We recognize that it is difficult to return to worship and to serve the congregation after being apart for so long.

### Council Business

We welcomed Nina Looney to council in September. Nina has agreed to be the Worship and Music Team leader through the end of January 2022.

Council approved an updated COVID-19 Policy to require face coverings when inside the building and to pause meals except for Confirmation meals effective 9/20/2021. This is in response to the continued substantial/high transmission rate of COVID in Scott county and is the CDC and our local health departments and hospitals. The CDC community transmission rate for COVID is defined by a) the % of positive tests and b) the number of positive cases per 100,000 people over the past 7 days. As of 9/18, Scott County was at 9.83% positivity and at 242 cases per 100,000 people. If you would like more



**Interest Meeting for  
Boundless: God Beyond Measure  
ELCA Youth Gathering  
Sunday, October 10, 11:30 am**

All students who are in grades 8 through 12 are invited to join us on Sunday, October 10, at 11:30 am (or immediately following the 10:30 am worship service) to get more information and register for the ELCA Youth Gathering which will be July 24-28, 2022. Registration has opened for Gathering, and we need to register soon in order to take advantage of the early bird registration fee and be sure that we are assigned housing with the other congregations of the Southeastern Iowa Synod.

We will be doing our "Getting Ready" work with other congregations in the Iowa Quad City Area, and at this time, we are planning to stay in Minneapolis an extra day so that we can go to Valley Fair for a day of fun. To register, we ask that each family pay the \$150 down payment for each child who is planning to go. The remaining cost (which is about \$1000 per youth), will be paid for through the budget and fundraising. We will talk about fundraisers at the meeting as well.

Also, if you are a parent who is interested in chaperoning, please come as well. There are some restrictions on how many adults can join us so that this remains primarily a youth event, so I am not sure, at this point, how many chaperones we will need, but if you are interested, please join us on October 10 and let me know.

If you are not able to join us on October 10, but would like to go, please contact Pastor Carrie ([pastorcarrielaplante@gmail.com](mailto:pastorcarrielaplante@gmail.com) or text 641-275-1326), and she will get the information to you. We do plan to do the initial registration on October 22, but there will be opportunities to add to our registration, although the price to families will increase as the cost of registration increases (once in November and again in January).

I am looking forward to this wonderful event. It really is an event that should be on your child's faith timeline. As one parent said at Youth Group last week, "It is really a life-changing experience." I hope that you will join us!! See you on October 10.

The Church year is back in full swing!

Confirmation began on Wednesday, August 25, with a Kick-off and informational meeting for parents and students. The following week, 25 students and 6 small group leaders started a new year of Confirmation class.

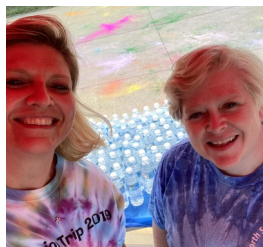
This month, we learned about friar, Martin Luther, who lived in a monastery 500 years ago. Luther was a man of deep faith...and deep doubt. At the time, the Roman Catholic Church was selling indulgences - parishioners would pay money to guarantee their place in Heaven. Martin Luther preached that God's Salvation is a free gift, given through Jesus Christ and received through our faith. Luther's contradiction infuriated the Roman Catholic Church, who therefore excommunicated him. But that did not stop the friar, he continued his preaching and years later, a new church was formed - the Lutheran church.

In the coming weeks, we will be reading about how to live a life as a Lutheran, including the Ten Commandments, the Lord's Prayer, the Apostles' Creed and what it means to participate in Holy Communion, among many other things.

The High School Youth also had a Kick-off on August 25, and Youth Group began on September 1. God has blessed us with beautiful evenings to sit outside on the front patio and enjoy each others' company. This is an extremely busy time with school activities also taking place; however we have approximately 9-12 students, some of them arriving and leaving as they need to.

Respectfully submitted,  
Joni King

(Pictures of church members involved with the NSJH Color Run on September 15, 2021)



information, please go to : <https://covid.cdc.gov/covid-data-tracker/#county-view>

	Low	Moderate	Substantial	High
New cases per 100,000 persons in the past 7 days*	<10	10-49.99	50-99.99	≥100
Percentage of positive NAATs tests during the past 7 days**	<5%	5-7.99%	8-9.99%	≥10.0%

The property committee chose Jim Giese Commercial Roofing Inc. of Eldridge as they were able to start the work to replace the roofing over the lower east flat section of our church building sooner. The work is underway.

The council approved Portico's Silver+ Level A as our baseline health plan for 2022. This is recommended by the ELCA and what we selected in 2021. This allows ours pastors to choose either the Silver+ Level A (higher deductibles with employer funded HSA) and Gold+ (lower deductibles with no employer funded HSA). If the pastors enroll in the same plans as 2021, our cost will increase from \$31,932 to \$33,521 (\$1,640 or 5.1%) for 2022.

Deanna let us know that the Audit Team completed their work for 2018-2019-2020 and are working on their Audit Report. She also asked teams to submit their 2022 proposed budget by 10/08, making sure to be both responsible and include necessary growth items.

Official minutes are available upon request by contacting the church office.

### We invite your feedback.

As always, it is beneficial for us to have direct feedback from members to support our work. Please feel free to contact any council member directly, or by emailing the church (a council member will then call you back).

Respectfully,  
Linda Golinghorst,  
Faith Evangelical Lutheran Church Council



## September Poll Results

**When you think about adult education at Faith Lutheran, what type of study would you be interested in?**

- Specific Topics (ex: Grief, Lutheran Faith, Discipleship...)
- Various Book Studies in Small Groups
- Congregational Wide Book Study in Small Groups

**When you think about adult education at Faith Lutheran, what times would you be interested in?** • Sunday 9:15am

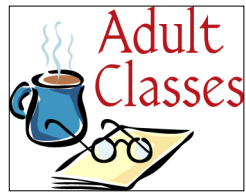
**When you think about adult education at Faith Lutheran, what format of study would you be interested in?** • In Person, Online, Webinar

## October Poll

Our congregation collects special offerings for Thanksgiving and Christmas. Last year we collected about \$600 for Thanksgiving and \$1,800 for Christmas.

In the past few years, we have split each offering between two recipients. We would like to know what non profit organizations or activities you would like to nominate for these special offerings. Please list your nomination(s).

Please provide any additional comments. You may complete the poll on Facebook, our website, or by emailing or calling the church office.



## New Member Welcome on Sunday, October 17, 2021, 11:30 am

We have had several people express interest in joining Faith Lutheran Church, and so we would like to offer the opportunity for those who would like to become members to do so. On Sunday, October 17, at 11:30 am (immediately following the 10:30 am worship service), we will gather so that we can get to know you better and so that you can get to know us even better. Our conversation will include a brief introduction to the congregation of Faith and to the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America, the church body of which we are a part. If you would like to join Faith, or would just like to know more, please join us. If the weather is nice, we will meet outdoors, but if the weather does not cooperate, we will meet in the Fellowship Hall. Our gathering will be no more than an hour and a half.

If you are planning to attend, please RSVP to the church office (285-4501) by Wednesday, October 13, so that we can be sure to have enough materials. If you are unable to attend, but would still like to become a member, please contact Pastor Carrie ([pastorcarrie@csteldridge.com](mailto:pastorcarrie@csteldridge.com)) and she will be happy to make other arrangements with you. We will welcome new members on the weekend of October 23 and 24 at the service of your choice. We look forward to gathering with you!







Please join us during the month of October to show appreciation for our pastors and our staff: Pastor Carrie, Pastor Heather, Beth Ann Anderson (Office Administrator), Dennis Kelly (Custodian), Sue Becker (Music Director/Organist), and Teri Wittkowski (Organist).

You may do by sending an email or card to the church, or by dropping it off the next time you are at worship or visiting the church.

***Let's join together to let them know how much they are loved!***




The Service in the World team appreciates everyone's generosity in donating to the Churches United meals through the service project God's Work, Our Hands on Rally Day. We received a variety of non-perishable items such as applesauce, chips, water, and more, as well as monetary donations.

We served a carry out meal on Tuesday, September 21st, at Zion Lutheran Church to 10 people. The next meal that Faith Lutheran sponsors will be in November. We appreciate the congregation's continued support of this mission of feeding our neighbors in need.

Thank you to the Service in the World and Fellowship Teams for hosting the 2021 North Scott Homecoming Parade Tailgate Party on our front lawn. It was wonderful to see so many people enjoying food, fellowship and fun while watching our friends and family in the parade. *Pictures from the Parade and Tailgate are on pages 10 & 11.*

Homecoming  
Parade Tailgate



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
					<b>1</b> <b>9:30 Food Pantry</b> 	<b>2</b> <b>5pm Worship in Sanctuary &amp; Online</b> 
<b>3</b> <b>8am Worship</b> <b>9:15 Sunday School</b> <b>10:30am Worship</b>	<b>4</b> <b>5:30-8:30 pm Lion's Club Mtg. (FH)</b>	<b>5</b> <b>1pm Bible Study</b> <b>5:30 Food Pantry</b> <b>6pm Resounding Joy!</b> <b>6:30 pm VFW (FH)</b> <b>7pm Jubilation</b>	<b>6</b> <b>5pm Confirmation Meal</b> <b>5:30pm Confirmation Conversations</b> <b>6:30pm People of Praise</b> <b>7pm High School Youth</b>	<b>7</b> <b>5pm Wedding Rehearsal</b> <b>6:30pm Team Night</b> <b>7:30pm Mentor Training</b>	<b>8</b> <b>9:30 Food Pantry</b> <b>3pm Brodersen/Gentz Wedding</b> 	<b>9</b> <b>5pm Worship in Sanctuary &amp; Online</b> 
<b>10</b> <b>8am Worship</b> <b>9:15 Sunday School</b> <b>10:30am Worship</b> <b>11:30am Youth Gathering Interest Meeting</b>	<b>11</b> <b>5:30-8:30 pm Lion's Club Mtg. (FH)</b>	<b>12</b> <b>1pm Bible Study</b> <b>5:30 Food Pantry</b> <b>6pm Resounding Joy!</b> <b>7pm Executive Committee Mtg.</b>	<b>13</b> <i><b>Confirmation Mentor Night—no meal or class</b></i> <b>6:30pm People of Praise</b> <b>7pm High School Youth</b>	<b>14</b> <b>Team Reports Due</b> <b>7pm WOF Board (FH)</b>	<b>15</b> <b>9:30 Food Pantry</b> 	<b>16</b> <b>5pm Worship in Sanctuary &amp; Online</b> 
<b>17</b> <b>8am Worship</b> <b>9:15 Sunday School</b> <b>10:30am Worship</b> <b>11:30am New Member Class</b>	<b>18</b>	<b>19</b> <b>9am Quilting (FH)</b> <b>1pm Bible Study</b> <b>5:30 Food Pantry</b> <b>6pm Resounding Joy!</b> <b>7pm Faith Connects</b>	<b>20</b> <b>5pm Confirmation Meal</b> <b>5:30pm Confirmation Conversations</b> <b>6:30pm People of Praise</b> <b>7pm High School Youth</b>	<b>21</b> <b>7pm Church Council Meeting Zoom</b> 	<b>22</b> <b>9:30 Food Pantry</b> 	<b>23</b> <b>5pm Worship in Sanctuary &amp; Online</b> 
<b>24</b> <b>8am Worship</b> <b>9:15 Sunday School</b> <b>10:30am Worship &amp; (Baptism)</b> <hr/> <b>31 Reformation Day</b> <b>8am Worship</b> <b>9:15 Sunday School</b> <b>10:30am Worship</b>	<b>25</b>	<b>26</b> <b>1pm Bible Study</b> <b>5:30 Food Pantry</b> <b>6pm Resounding Joy!</b>	<b>27</b> <b>5pm Confirmation Meal</b> <b>5:30pm Confirmation Conversations</b> <b>6:30pm People of Praise</b> <b>7pm High School Youth</b>	<b>28</b> <b>9am Ambassador Folding</b> 	<b>29</b> <b>9:30 Food Pantry</b> 	<b>30</b> <b>5pm Worship in Sanctuary &amp; Online</b> 