

A Word from Your Minister



“Can you hear me? Can you hear me now?” We have seen this commercial many times and maybe we have lived with situations where we had bad cell reception. But what if God is the one asking “Can you hear me? Can you hear me now?” When we are too caught up in the goings on in everyday life, we might not hear what God is trying to tell us. Sometimes it seems like he might be using a 2x4 to get my attention (I’ve been told that I have a thick head), but here I am, answering His call as your SAM (Synod Authorized Minister).

The question of “Why me God”, came to mind as this was nothing I had thought of, planned for, or imagined. We were going to retire to our lake house and take life as it came. But God had His plan.

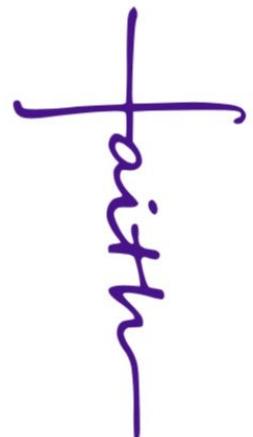
My faith journey has always amazed me when I stop to listen to God. I hope everyone will keep their ears open, and listen for that whisper of God’s (or 2x4) when He is asking us to step outside of our comfort zone and do His work. I ask for prayers as I enter into God’s work with the people of Faith. May God’s joy, hope, and peace of the New Year be with all of you!

In His name,

Rick



† <u>Sunday, January 2</u> ~	9:30 am 10:15 am 10:30 am	Worship / 2 nd Sunday of Christmas Coffee Fellowship A Welcome POTLUCK NO Sunday School
† <u>Wednesday, January 5</u> ~	9:00 am 10:00 am 3:30 pm 5:30-7:00 pm	Quilters—Anyone is invited to join! Gather to Pray Praise Team Practice Faith In Action
† <u>Sunday, January 9</u> ~	9:30 am 10:15 am 10:30-11:15 am 5:00-6:00 pm	Worship / Baptism of Our Lord Coffee Fellowship Sunday School Choir Rehearsal
† <u>Monday, January 10</u> ~	6:30 pm	WOW @ Sandy Nies'
† <u>Wednesday, January 12</u> ~	10:00 am 3:30 pm 5:30-7:00 pm 6:00-7:30 pm	Gather to Pray Praise Team Practice Faith in Action Confirmation
† <u>Thursday, January 13</u> ~	10:00 am	Caring Ministry
† <u>Friday January 14</u> ~	10:00 am	Prayer Shawl
† <u>Sunday, January 16</u> ~	9:30 am 10:15 am 10:30-11:15 am 5:00-6:00 pm	Worship / 2 nd Sunday after Epiphany Coffee Fellowship Sunday School Choir Rehearsal
† <u>Monday, January 17</u> ~	7:00 pm	Men of Faith
† <u>Tuesday, January 18</u> ~	5:00 pm 6:00 pm 7:00 pm	Prayer Team Meeting Worship Ministry Meeting Church Council Meeting
† <u>Wednesday, January 19</u> ~	9:00 am 10:00 am 3:30 pm 5:30-7:00 pm	Quilters—Anyone is invited to join! Gather to Pray Praise Team Practice Faith In Action
† <u>Friday, January 21</u> ~		Newsletter Articles Due in Office
† <u>Sunday, January 23</u> ~	9:30 am 10:15 am 10:30-11:15 am	Worship / 3 rd Sunday after Epiphany Coffee Fellowship Sunday School
† <u>Wednesday, January 26</u> ~	10:00 am 3:30 pm 5:30-7:00 pm 6:00-7:30 pm	Gather to Pray Praise Team Practice Faith in Action Confirmation Newsletter Sent Out
† <u>Friday, January 28</u> ~	10:00 am	Prayer Shawl
† <u>Sunday, January 30</u> ~	9:30 am 10:15 am 10:30-11:15 am 5:00-6:00 pm	Worship / 4 th Sunday after Epiphany Coffee Fellowship Sunday School Choir Rehearsal



Faith Lutheran Church Council Minutes
December 14, 2021

Council members present: Sue Temte, Maggie Rens, Derek Karels, Craig Lemieux, Shari Strecker, Rose Marie Nutt, Doug Halvorson, Mark Menke, and Diane Gibas. Also present was Rick Gabriel, synod authorized minister (SAM) effective Jan. 1, 2022.

Absent: Nancy Hendry

President Mark Menke called the meeting to order and Maggie Rens provided devotions.

Doug made the motion to approve the agenda with changes, Sue seconded and the motion passed.

Minutes from the November meeting and a special meeting held December 7, 2021 were reviewed. Rose Marie made the motion and Shari seconded the motion to approve the minutes. The motion passed.

Mark gave a report on the call committee. Their work is ongoing.

Doug gave the treasurer's report. Craig moved to accept the report, Sue seconded the motion. The report was approved.

Under announcements and information, Mark said the Synod accepted the contract between Faith Lutheran Church and Rick Gabriel as our SAM. Mark said we will have a potluck on January 2, to welcome Rick in his new position.

Rick gave a short report to the council and expressed his thanks in his new position within the church. He said he sees as priorities visitation, youth, and serving the community of Faith.

Under old business, Mark said the doors are being worked on. The guy came out two or three weeks ago and began to put weather stripping on the doors. The new front door has been ordered. The church has raised \$6,200 towards the \$9,000 needed for the door. More money has been raised in December but Mark did not have the figure at the council meeting. In addition, keys for the church are being worked on.

Mark said there is no information on a dishwasher for the church, but he is still looking.

The Bob and Pauline Johnson Scholarship was discussed again. The scholarship fund is designated for future teachers. The last time it was given was 2010. The school also has a Johnson Scholarship which has been combined with the Carly Bruske Scholarship for secondary education. The council discussed the possibility of combining the scholarship fund the church gives out with the Bruske and Johnson scholarships through the school. Rick moved to get input from the family. Maggie seconded the motion. Diane will make an effort to contact the family and get their approval.

Rick is taking January 15 through the 23rd as unpaid time off as they have a trip planned prior to taking the position as our SAM.

Rod Peterson is planning to start the work in the youth room. To start it is a two man job but will later need a four man crew for anyone who is interested in helping.

(Continued on page 4)

Discussion was held on hiring a carpet cleaning service to clean the carpets in the fellowship hall and the sanctuary and also the floor in the narthex.

A motion was made by Sue and seconded by Maggie to pay the reimbursements for pulpit supply through December.

Kristi Pedersen received her last raise two years ago. Last year she was given one week vacation. Mark suggested we give her a raise. Craig made the motion to raise her hourly rate to \$20 per hour and give her two weeks vacation. Doug seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

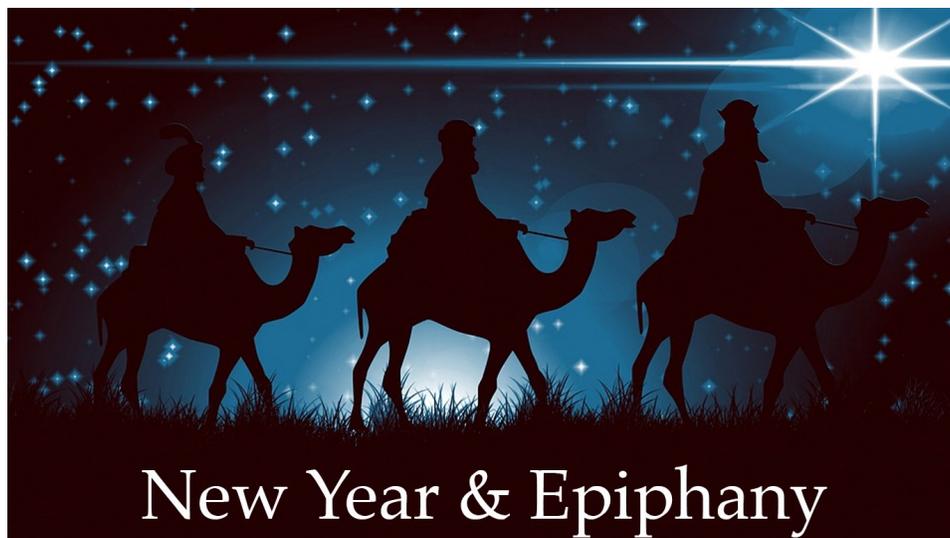
Moving communion to the second and fourth Sundays of the month.

The Connect Committee gave a recap of the yearly schedule. The committee is the connection between the church and the community. The most recent undertaking was the advent fest and next will serve tea and bars or cookies following the cantata practices. They will also gather and distribute boxes for Vets for Easter.

The Children's Education committee stated they planned to go caroling before Christmas, and they held the annual Christmas program. Faith in Action will not meet for two weeks over the Christmas holiday.

Derek will have devotions in January.

Sue moved that we adjourn, Doug seconded the motion. The meeting was adjourned.



Prayer Ministry



Dear Heavenly Father, we come to the end of another year and we look towards a new year that is just beginning. And, yet each day we are continually reminded that COVID is still a part of our daily lives. Help us to embrace whatever changes are needed. Help us to get past our political and racial disagreements that have divided our country, communities, churches, and families in so many ways. Help us bring about healing, reconciliation, restoration, and hope for a new future. Continue to challenge us in new ways to further the ministry we share together and of being faithful witnesses in all that we do, whether it is here in church, in our homes, or in our community. We know you will always be with us when things tend to not go as we wish, or when we experience loss and as our hearts grieve. We also know that you understand our pain, the temptations that we face, and the many trials that we have to go through. You are the only one who can give us the comfort and strength we need to face our tomorrows. With so many changes happening around us, we know one thing will not change—one thing will always remain the same and that is your Son, Jesus. So, when things get tough, remind us to focus on him to get us through.

- Be with those who are hurting. Lift their spirits and shelter their hearts in your loving hands. Bring peace to their hearts and healing to their minds and bodies. Give them strength for today and hope for tomorrow. We especially lift up all who are on our prayer network.
- Help us keep our hearts and minds focused on you. Bless, encourage, and lift our hearts today in a special way so that we will know and feel your love.
- Give us the emotional and spiritual strength we will need to face our tomorrows.
- Fill our homes with your peace and help us to see joy in all things.
- We thank you for our new members. Help us welcome and encourage them to be a vital part of our church family.
- Keep us safe during these cold winter months. Let us enjoy the beauty that comes with the snow and cold.
- Help us honor your creation by conserving all the resources you have provided for us.
- Continue to guide our call committee as we all await the right individual to lead and guide this congregation. We thank you for blessing us with Byron Menke these last few months and for Rick Gabriel to serve as a Synod Authorized Minister until a full time Pastor has been called. You have been so good to us by blessing us with ministry leaders.
- Bless our congregation. Bring back those individuals who have been missing since the beginning of COVID. May they know that they have been missed. We give thanks for our members who have touched others through their kindness and generous hearts. They are indeed making a difference in the lives of others. We lift up in prayer all our members. We especially pray for the following each week.
- Week of January 2 – Jason and Jody Amundson; Carol Anderson; David and Joanne Anderson; Tom, Marcy, and Paige Anderson.
- Week of January 9 – Roland and Dee Berg; Frank and Elinor Bertek; Samantha Christle, Aaron, and Ivan Bitzan.
- Week of January 16 – Ronda Bjornson; Randy and LaDonna Blackorbay; Helen Bland; Wayne and Linda Boike.
- Week of January 23 – Jon, Jodi, Isaiah, Ethan, and Noah Borg; Paul, Sue, and Justin Borgfelt; Dennis and Ilene Boser.
- Week of January 30 – Mark and Becky Bruske; Brianna Bruske, David Hill, Rylenn, Roman, Estelle, and June; Lenore Bryant.

We thank you for the many blessings in our lives that we so easily lose sight of in our busy schedules. This year, fill our lives with love, joy and compassion for all people. AMEN

“Gather to Pray” Every Wednesday

If you should ever need personal prayer...contact any prayer team member who will pray with you over the phone.



A New Year Prayer

Holy Father, God of our yesterday's, our today, and our tomorrows, We praise you for your greatness. We thank you for the year behind us and for the year ahead. Help us to fret less and laugh more. To teach our children to laugh more, by laughing with them and to teach others to love by loving them. Thank you for bringing Love to the stable in Bethlehem so we could know you and your love and that we could share this love with others. Help us, Father, to hear your love song in every sunrise, in the chirping of birds, in the stories of our old folks, and the fantasizes of our children. Help us to stop and listen to your loved ones, so that we may know you better. We rejoice in this world you loved into being. We thank you for another new year and for new chances every day. We pray for peace, for light, and for hope, so that we might spread them to others. Forgive us for falling short this past year and for leaving the irreparable past in your hands. We step out into the new year knowing you will go with us. We accept your fight of a new year and we rejoice in what's ahead, always depending on you to help us do exactly what you want. We rejoice in Jesus name.

Amen
(Author
Unknown)

**The prayer ministry team would like to encourage you to “Pray with your Directory.”
Each time you pray, lift up individuals/families in the church directory.
God knows their needs...we just need to pray for them.**

Ellory Christianson, Diane Gibas, Nancy Hendry, Doc Moss, Carolyn Nutt, Mary Sears

Children, please cut out and place this prayer in your prayer pillows. Watch for a new prayer each month.



Children's Prayer Time

Dear Lord, thank you for sending Jesus to live and grow up on this earth. Help me to remember that he was once my age and he too had problems to face, just as I do. I am thankful he understands my hurts and pains.

Amen.



We have an AED (automated external defibrillator) in the Narthex to the left of the doors leading into the fellowship hall. The next time you are in, you are encouraged to take a moment and see where it is located in case of an emergency. Mark and Becky Bruske maintain it on a regular basis. If you would like to know how to use it, just ask them and they can instruct you on it.

Thank you Mark and Becky for keeping us safe!



December 5	\$1,917.00
December 12	\$4,515.00
December 19	\$1,907.00
December 24 & 26	\$4,442.00



We would like to say a big Thank You to all of those who volunteer in our Church and in our Community.

We especially want to thank Joan Lundquist and Mary Sears who give many hours of their time at ONE MORE TIME in Isle. Each month Faith Lutheran Church receives a \$50.00+ donation that goes into the Good Samaritan Fund. This donation helps Faith Lutheran Church give to those in need.

Ruby's Pantry

The 1st Monday of each month at
Onamia Lion's Community Center,
806 West Kathio St, Onamia.
10:30—Noon ... call 532-3366 for questions.
For a \$20.00 cash donation, you will receive
an abundance of grocery items.



Food Shelves

Isle - Old Fire Hall, across from Post Office
Must be resident of Isle School District
1st Tuesday of the month 4 pm - 6 pm
4th Tuesday of the month 2:30 pm to 5:30 pm



January Birthdays and Anniversaries

Birthdays

1/01	Elsie Samuelson	1/20	Holly Jablonski
1/02	Marlene Moss	1/21	Emma Haggberg
1/03	Aleia Haggberg	1/21	Bryan Heise
1/08	Janelle Erickson	1/22	Linda Dow
1/09	Lucas Karels	1/24	Harvey Exsted
1/10	Teddy Mans	1/27	Daniel Miller
1/10	Addisyn DeCoursey	1/29	Kayden Pedersen
1/10	Craig Lemieux	1/30	Emily Miller
1/15	Laurie Richards	1/31	Betty Lindahl
1/15	Katie Joy	1/31	Jo DeFeyter
1/19	Bob Pedersen		



Anniversaries

1/20 David & Rose Marie Nutt



Please let the office know if we have missed or
incorrectly listed your birthday or anniversary.



We've made it more convenient to sign up to serve at church. Try it out with this link [Faith Server SignUp](#) . Or sign-up sheets will be available at the church or give the office a call.

If you find that you are unable to fulfill the task on your given Sunday, please find someone to take your place and let the office know as soon as possible!!

SERVERS for Worship January 2022

Scripture Readers:

January 2 - Sue Temte
 January 9 - _____
 January 16 - _____
 January 23 - _____
 January 30 - _____

Ushers:

January 2 - _____

 January 9 - _____

 January 16 - _____

 January 23 - _____

 January 30 - _____

Greeters:

January 2 - _____
 January 9 - _____
 January 16 - _____
 January 23 - _____
 January 30 - _____

Prayer Station:

January 9 - _____
 January 23 - _____

Acolytes:

January 2 - Lucas Karels
 January 9 - Dani Larson
 January 16 - Livia Raverty
 January 23 - Hunter Lemm
 January 30 - Blake Karels

Communion Prep Team:

January 9 - _____
 January 23 - _____

Communion Assistants:

January 9 - _____

 January 23 - _____

Coffee Servers:

January 2 - _____

 January 9 - _____

 January 16 - _____

 January 23 - _____

 January 30 - _____

Thank You for Serving!

January 2022

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
26	27	28	29	30	31	1
9:30am - Worship 10:15am - Coffee 6pm - JFK Dance		4pm - JFK Dance	NO FIA - NO 10am - Gather to 3:30pm - Praise	Newsletter sent out 2pm - Yoga	Day off for New New Year's Eve	New Year's Day OFFICE CLOSED 9am - AA Big Book
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9:30am - Worship 10:15am - Coffee 10:30am - POTLUCK 6pm - JFK Dance		4pm - JFK Dance	9am - Quilters 10am - Gather to 3:30pm - Praise 5:30pm - FIA	2pm - Yoga		9am - AA Big Book
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
9:30am - Worship 10:15am - Coffee 10:30am - Sunday 5pm - Choir Practice 6pm - JFK Dance	1pm - Garden Club 6:30pm - WOW	4pm - JFK Dance	10am - Gather to 3:30pm - Praise 5:30pm - FIA 6pm - Confirmation	10am - Caring 10am - Our Home 2pm - Yoga	10am - Prayer Shawl	9am - AA Big Book
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
9:30am - Worship 10:15am - Coffee 10:30am - Sunday 5pm - Choir Practice 6pm - JFK Dance	Martin Luther King 7pm - Men of Faith	4pm - JFK Dance 5pm - Prayer Team 6pm - Worship Team 7pm - Council	9am - Quilters 10am - Gather to 3:30pm - Praise 5:30pm - FIA	2pm - Yoga	Newsletter Articles	9am - AA Big Book
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
9:30am - Worship 10:15am - Coffee 10:30am - Sunday 6pm - JFK Dance		4pm - JFK Dance	Newsletter sent out 10am - Gather to 3:30pm - Praise 5:30pm - FIA 6pm - Confirmation	10am - Our Home 2pm - Yoga	10am - Prayer Shawl	9am - AA Big Book
30	31	1	2	3	4	5
9:30am - Worship 10:15am - Coffee 10:30am - Sunday 5pm - Choir Practice 6pm - JFK Dance		First Day of Black 4pm - JFK Dance	9am - Quilters 10am - Gather to 3:30pm - Praise 5:30pm - FIA 6pm - Confirmation	2pm - Yoga		9am - AA Big Book

[Click Here for January 2022 Calendar](#)

Faith Lutheran now has online giving set up. It can be accessed by going to www.faithisle.org or click or scan the following QR with your smartphone.

Click this → 







Please call the office at (320) 676-3161 or email yougotfaith@frontier.com with any changes in your contact information.

Church Office Hours

Tuesday and Wednesday - 9:00am–2:00pm
 Monday, Thursday, Friday - Closed
 Church Office - (320) 676-3161
 PO Box 71, Isle, MN 56342
 Website: www.faithisle.org
 E-mail: yougotfaith@frontier.com
 Mark Menke, Council President (763) 447-7290
 Kristi Pedersen, Admin. Asst. (320) 293-1685