

Faith FINDINGS



September 2025

MON, SEPT 1 LABOR DAY

WEDNES, SEPT 3 QUILTING, 9AM

SUN, SEPT 7 WORSHIP, 9:30AM

COFFEE FELLOWSHIP, 10:30AM

START OF RALLY WEEK

ANNUAL CHOIR POTLUCK AND

REHEARSAL AT BARB + CRAIG

MAGNAN'S HOUSE, 1PM

MON, SEPT 8 GATHER MILLE LACS YOUNG
ADULTS, 7PM

TUES, SEPT 9 PRAYER TEAM, 10AM

WORSHIP TEAM, 11AM

MISSION + REVISIONING, 7PM

WED, SEPT 10 CONNECT TEAM, 10AM

FAITH IN ACTION, 5:30PM

CONFIRMATION, 7PM

YOUTH GROUP, 8PM

SUN, SEPT 14 WORSHIP, 9:30AM

COFFEE FELLOWSHIP, 10:30AM

MON, SEPT 15 WOW @ BARB MAGNAN'S,
6:30PM

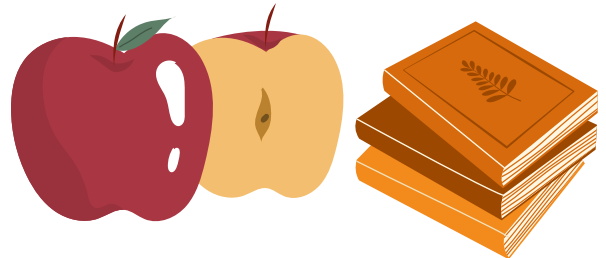
TUES, SEPT 16 COUNCIL MEETING, 6PM

WEDNES, SEPT 17 FAITH IN ACTION, 5:30PM

CONFIRMATION, 7PM

YOUTH GROUP, 8PM

Faith in Action
Kicks Off
September 10th!



SEPT 19-21 QUILT AUCTION AT CAMP
ONOMIA

SUN, SEPT 21 NEW MEMBER SUNDAY

WORSHIP, 9:30AM

COFFEE FELLOWSHIP, 10:30AM

MON, SEPT 22 GATHER MILLE LACS YOUNG
ADULTS, 7PM

WEDNES, SEPT 24 FAITH IN ACTION, 5:30PM

CONFIRMATION, 7PM

YOUTH GROUP, 8PM

SUN, SEPT 28 WORSHIP, 9:30AM

COFFEE FELLOWSHIP, 10:30AM

ANNUAL MEETING, 10:45AM

YOUTH HAUNTED HAYRIDE,
4:30PM



*United in faith,
our mission is to grow in
Christ and serve others.*



Faith Lutheran Church Council Minutes

August 19, 2025

- **Call to Order** – at 6 pm by President Karen Gabriel
- **Members Present** - Karen, Natasha, Elaine, Nancy, Aliesha, Pastor Josh
- **Devotions** – Karen
- **Agenda- Modifications & Approval** – Motion to approve with additions by Elaine, 2nd by Aliesha / Approved
- **Approval of Minutes Council Meeting 7/15//2025** – Motion to approve by Aliesha, 2nd by Natasha, Approved
- **Receive Treasurer's Report** – June 2026 – Motion to accept with correction by Nancy, 2nd by Elaine, Approved. Motion to accept July 2026 report by Elaine, 2nd by Natasha. Approved.
- **Pastor's Report**
 - Our Church: Pastoral Acts included a baptism, a premarital counseling session, 14 visits to hospitalized, shut-ins and for pastoral care, Church Picnic & Mission Trip Presentation, VBS at Camp Onamia, Annual Worship Planning meeting. (6 pending baptisms – none are babies.)
 - C2Worship on the Water-75 people on 2 launches. Participants had a good time. One group of participants were people who attend Faith on-line.
 - FIA Volunteer Meeting – Natasha Kuhlman is leading FIA this year. Kortney will teach Pre-K kids. The team is seeking volunteers to teach 1st-4th grade and 5th-6th grade classes. The hope is to get enough volunteers to rotate teaching duties. Confirmation class has been rescheduled to 7-8 pm so that those students may assist FIA teachers. Helping will count as “service hours”.
 - Faith In Action as a Worship Event – Faith Lutheran Church is currently comprised of three branches of community: Sunday morning worship attendees, On-Line attendees and FIA attendees on Wednesdays. With this in mind, the format of FIA is shifting to make it a more deliberate and full worship experience. Wednesday activities will begin with opening worship in the sanctuary, followed by a shared meal, their classroom teaching time will compare to the Sunday morning preaching the Word section of a service and students will gather again at the end for the Sending.
 - Synod and Churchwide: Discipleship Meeting (4) have been enjoying the question “What would Banana Ball do? Mentor meetings (3). Camp Onamia Program Committee Meeting (1). Church Wide Assembly was a highly scheduled time and he met many people from around the world, and connected with many special interest groups. He participated in Synod Fall Theological Worship Planning Committee.

- He has been invited to lead a session at Synod “Walking Together” Event (Sat. October 11, Grand Rapids – All are welcome.) Banana Ball for the church: Back to the joy of the game, a not-so-serious look at how to find and stay true to our purpose.
- He shared that **Colby Hubbell** has been appointed by NEMN Bishop as a Young Adult synod **representative to churchwide**.
- Community: Pastor helped with Big Daddy Weave concert with RURAL. He enjoyed meeting and greeting at National Night Out. Looking forward to RURAL this weekend.
- Work/life balance: Logged time off /upcoming time off. He shared continuing education and reading lists.

Old Business

1. Revisioning/Strategic Planning update–12 people participated in Session 1. Discussion covered Expectations. 8 people attended Session 2 where the discussion was about community and what it looks like to be a participant. **Session 3 is September 9th. All are welcome to attend and join in the discussion.**
2. Parking Lot Light – progressing. It will possibly be completed over Labor Day Weekend.
3. VBS Update – was held at Camp Onamia. 3 congregations participated. 12 of our kids attended and loved it.
4. Floor by Organ –Scheduled for Sept. 25 by E&M Coatings. 50% has been paid.
5. Roof Update – The bid is for \$80,000, or \$70,000 for only the roof. The insurance offer is \$52,000. They put a one-sentence rider on the policy this year that only covers the cash value of the roof, not the full replacement value. Legally, because they reduced the coverage they were supposed to reduce the premium. The roof is stalled while that is being worked out.

New Business

1. Annual Meeting is Sept. 28, 10:45 am – Ministry Team reports are due to Jenny by Aug. 26th. Nominating committee is working on finding candidates for openings. Audit will be completed by Annual Meeting. The proposed bylaw to the constitution: *“Employees of Faith Lutheran Church may not serve on the church council or call committee while employed by Faith Lutheran Church as a best practice to avoid conflict of interest.”* is being given appropriate advance publication.
2. Voting/Attending Annual Meeting via Zoom – next steps – We have to be able to see and hear. Pastor Josh will check on how the voting process works on Zoom and make sure on-line Annual Meeting attendees can fully participate.

3. Reviewing preliminary budget – a lengthy discussion ensued.
4. Pastor Evaluation – Karen & Aliesha found an evaluation tool and handed it out for Council members to fill out.
5. 2026 Youth Mission Trip – Council was presented with a detailed Plan & Proposal for a trip to Billings, MT, June 14-22, 2026. Four days of service work, a day at Yellowstone & Hot Springs, and return via Rapid City, WaTiki Waterpark, Mt. Rushmore, Badlands, etc.
6. Creation of Youth Mission Trip Bank Account – Aliesha made the motion & Elaine seconded this motion: “Faith Lutheran Council approves the creation of a separate bank account called Faith Lutheran Youth Mission Trip with signers on the account being Kortney Sawatzky, Natasha Kuhlman, Derek Karels, Dale Karels and Joshua Blair.” The motion was voted on and unanimously approved. This will be a “no cash back account” with spending using bank cards.

Future Needs

1. Heat/Insulation
2. Roof
3. Parking Lot

Ministry Team Reports

- Worship & Music – The team planned for the upcoming church year.
- Prayer – Reorganized the Library to make it more inviting and turn it into a BIG “Little Free Library”. We invite everyone to check it out.
- Connect – has taken on the “Thanksgiving in a Bag” Food Shelf Project. This is a major project with collecting happening in September.
- Local & Global Missions – waiting to hear about this year’s YAGM members.
- Children, Youth, Family & Education – into the thick of FIA programming. Major work on 2026 Mission Trip.
- Stewardship & Finance – ongoing. May need to consider a stewardship promotion this year.
- Building, Property & Cemetery - ongoing
- Memorial – waiting for the receipt for new outdoor wastebaskets.
- Technology – ongoing

Next Regular Meeting – Sept. 16, 2025, 6 pm

Devotions next time – Elaine

Closing Prayer – Nancy

Adjournment – Elaine made the motion. Karen seconded. Approved.

Unapproved Minutes Submitted by,
Nancy Hendry

4 OF 4

REVISIONING +STRATEGIC PLANNING COMMITTEE MEETING

**TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER
9TH AT 7:00PM**

**What direction are we going as a church?
What is God calling us to do as a church?**

We are creating a committee to help with this. If you are interested in helping with strategic planning, but can't attend the team meeting please reach out to Pastor Josh or Karen Gabriel. See you at Faith Lutheran at 6:30pm on Thursday, August 7th.



Faith Lutheran MONTHLY GIVING and Attendance

August 3

Physical Attendance 80
Live Online Attendance 22
Giving \$2,878.00

August 10

Physical Attendance 48
Live Online Attendance 16
Giving \$5,060.00

August 17

Physical Attendance 42
Live Online Attendance 22
Giving \$2,121.81

August 24

Physical Attendance 56
Live Online Attendance 42
Giving \$7,639.00

August 31

Physical Attendance 45
Live Online Attendance 26
Giving \$2,352.00

Vote on a bylaw to the constitution

Members of Faith Lutheran Church will be asked to vote on a bylaw to be added to our constitution at the next annual meeting on Sunday, September 28, 2025 following the morning service. The proposed bylaw states:

Employees of Faith Lutheran Church may not serve on the church council or a call committee while employed by Faith Lutheran Church as a best practice to avoid conflict of interest.

One of the responsibilities of Council is to supervise and set salaries for employees. Council recommends this proposal as it ensures no individual serves as both supervisor and employee. This approach follows best practices within the ELCA and is encouraged by our synod.

Council has already supported this proposal as a continuing resolution, and this statement has been added to the Personnel Policies.

If you have questions or concerns, please contact Karen Gabriel.

Karen Gabriel
Council President
Faith Lutheran Church



WOMEN OF THE WORD

Women of the Word (WOW) meets monthly. We use the Bible Study found in the "Gather" magazine. All women are invited! If you are interested in joining us, please contact the church office.

Barb Magnan's on September 15th at 6:30pm.

Sandy Nies' on October 20th at 6:30pm.



We Pray for:

School begins, September 3
 Blessing of the backpacks
 Rally Week, September 7-14
 New member Sunday, September 21
 Annual Meeting, Sunday, September 28

Bible Studies:
 WOW, 9/25 @ 6:30 p.m.

Faith in Action - Wednesday 5:30 p.m.
 Confirmation - Wednesday 7:00 p.m.
 Youth Group - Wednesday 8:00 p.m.
 SundaySchool - Sundays

Young Adults - September 8 & 22
 @ 7 p.m.

Sundays: 9:30 Worship
 Sunday Coffee Fellowship

Church Council
 Building & Property Ministry
 Finance & Stewardship Team
 Children, Youth & Family Ministry Team
 Connect Ministry Team
 Local & Global Missions
 Memorial Ministry
 Music Ministry
 Prayer Ministry
 Prayer Shawl
 Quilters
 WELCA
 Worship Ministry Team

"Common Prayer Time"

Every Wednesday - pray from home or
 at Church

"Pray with your directory"

Lift up individuals/families in the church
 directory each time you pray.

"Personal Prayer"

Need of personal prayer: Seek prayer
 during communion on Sunday's or
 contact any prayer team member who
 will pray with you.

WE ARE THE CHURCH...for the people

"Paul appeals to the church in Corinth, by the name of Jesus Christ, to be in agreement and avoid divisions, urging them to be united in thought and purpose." 1 Corinthians 1:10

God sent Jesus for all people. Before He left this earth, he encouraged all who believed in him to carry on the work he had started. He knew the work would not be easy and that they would need a support system. Thus the early church began where people came together to support and uplift one another in the work that needed to be done. They carried on the work Jesus had started. They met in homes where they studied, prayed and reached out to the last, the least, the lost and the lonely. Over the years, people have continued to come together to be guided by the truth of God's word. Together they found fellowship with other believers. They found encouragement and support in doing Christ's work. They found ways to develop fruits of the Spirit and to bear fruit within the community they served. They came with open arms and welcomed anyone needing Christ in their lives and they looked for ways to help.

We are a Christian community where we worship and serve our God, where we can be a family to many and a source of emotional and practical help during difficult seasons in life.

Today, more and more people are searching for answers, looking for help and wanting to be part of something bigger—something more spiritual. They want to feel accepted, to be encouraged, and to be needed. They want to make a difference in the world in which they live. Yet, many do not know it is Christ who is missing in their lives. The traditional church as so many of us know, is not what the new generation is looking for. We may call ourselves the church, but are we really there for them? Are we addressing the concerns of those whom God places in our hands? Are we a Christian community that encourages and supports Christ's work within the new generation? Are we addressing the changes the church needs to face today?

God does not want us to forget why the early church began. And, just as he was there for the early church, he is also with us in the messy reality that churches are facing today. Times have changed, people have changed, and their issues and concerns are different.

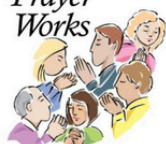
Paul's appeal to the early church needs to also be our prayer today. May we work together to find ways that, we at Faith, can adapt to the changing needs of today's people while we continue to be a Christian community who reaches out to all people so they will come to know and experience Christ's love for them.

Children's Prayer Time



Dear Jesus, thank you for my church family. I know it is a safe place where I know I am loved by people who love you. Amen.

Prayer Works



Dear Lord, as we begin our new church year, be with our revisioning team as they look towards the future of this church. Guide us in our planning and help us find ways to be united in thought and purpose as we continue to grow as a Christian community that encourages and supports you in all we do.

- As we begin a new school year, be with all our teachers as they navigate their classrooms. Encourage and give them the patience and wisdom needed to deal with any situation they may encounter. Be with our students, guiding and helping them to be respectful of their teachers and fellow classmates. Guide our administrators and leaders in making the right decisions to make our schools a safe place for learning.
- As our young adults head off to pursue their educational goals, go with them and keep them safe. As they face difficult situations in life, may they turn to you for the guidance they will need.
- As Rally Sunday approaches, we look forward to resuming our many church activities. Guide our leaders and helpers as they work with Faith in Action, confirmation, Sunday school, and the many other youth activities. Fill our children with excitement and enthusiasm as they begin a new year of learning and growing in their faith.
- We thank you for what we have been able to accomplish this past year. Continue to guide the work of our church council and be with all who gather for our annual meeting at the end of this month.
- Open our eyes to see what needs to be done within our church and open our hearts to meet those needs through the many and varied gifts you have given each of us.
- Encourage all who enjoy singing, to be part of our church choir as they come together to once again praise and worship you through their music.
- We lift in prayer all who will be joining us as new members. Help us welcome and involve them in our church family.
- Bless all our members and visitors who worship with us either on line or in person. May we continue to be a

church for all people. Each week in September we pray for the following:

- Week of 9/7 - Elaine Freichels; Rick and Karen Gabriel; Pam Geiger
- Week of 9/14 - Geoff, Shanessa, Nevaeh and Parker Gesell; Tom and Diane Gibas; Marlene Green
- Week of 9/21 - Ron and Pat Gudim; Al and Sue Gustner; Brady, Aleia, Beau and Bruer Haggberg
- Week of 9/28 - Charles (Bubbles) and Phyllis Haggberg; David and Susie Haggberg; Donald Haggberg
- We lift up all who struggle with life issues, who deal with health problems, and those who feel spiritually empty. Comfort them, bring them healing and protection. Make your presence felt by all who need your loving care. We especially lift up all on our prayer network and those whom we hold in our personal prayers.
- Be with all who are part of our Faith family, especially those who can no longer with us because of being homebound, in health care facilities or have moved away to be closer to family. We lift them all in prayer and ask you to watch over them while they are apart from us.



Blessing: Ellory Christianson, Diane Gibas, Dave Morneau, Doc Moss, Sandy Nies, Pam Peterson, Mary Sears, Cheryl Ten Bruin.

Note: Prayer shawls are available in the Chapel. Please take and give away to anyone whom you feel is in need of prayer. We ask that you record in the Shawl book, the date and to whom the shawl is given. (This helps to not deliver multiple shawls to the same individual.)

September

Faith Lutheran Church, Holidays in United States

Sep 2025 (Central Time - Chicago)

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
31 9:30am - Worship 10:30am - Coffee Fellowship	1 Labor Day	2	3 9am - Quilting 10am - Gather to Pray	4 9:30am - Thursdays email 7:30pm - AA	5	6 Pastor Josh wedding ceremony 9am - AA Big Book
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
Rally Week						
9:30am - Worship (Rally Sunday) 10:30am - Coffee Fellowship 1pm - Annual Choir Potluck and	1pm - Garden Club 7pm - Gather Mille Laes Young	10am - Prayer Team Ministry 11am - Worship Team 7pm - Mission + Visioning	10am - Connect Team 10am - Gather to Pray 5:30pm - FIA 7pm - Confirmation 8pm - Youth Group	9:30am - Thursdays email 7:30pm - AA		9am - AA Big Book
14 Rally Week Pastor Josh out of the office (fall) 9:30am - Worship 10:30am - Coffee Fellowship	15 6:30pm - WOW @Barb Magnan's	16 6pm - Council Meeting	17 10am - Gather to Pray 5:30pm - FIA 7pm - Confirmation 8pm - Youth Group	18 9:30am - Thursdays email 7:30pm - AA	19 Quilt Auction Weekend @Camp Chonoma	20 9am - AA Big Book
21 Quilt Auction Weekend @Camp New Member Sunday 9am - Annual Reports Due to 9:30am - Worship 10:30am - Coffee Fellowship	22 7pm - Gather Mille Laes Young	23	24 10am - Gather to Pray 5:30pm - FIA 7pm - Confirmation 8pm - Youth Group	25 Pastor Josh out of office 9:30am - Thursdays email 7:30pm - AA	26	27 9am - AA Big Book
28 9:30am - Worship 10:30am - Coffee Fellowship 10:45am - Annual Meeting 4:30pm - Youth Haunted Hayride	29	30	1 10am - Gather to Pray 5:30pm - FIA 7pm - Confirmation 8pm - Youth Group	2 9:30am - Thursdays email 7:30pm - AA	3	4 9am - AA Big Book

**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

Scripture Readers:

September 7	Jane Lemieux
September 14	Tom Kluebs
September 21	Sue Gustner
September 28	Sue Gustner

Acolytes:

September 7	Parker Gesell	
September 14	Blake Karels	Treasure
September 21	Trinity Barnett	TRUE
September 28	Maverick Kuhlman	Dylan Stenvold

Ushers:

September 7	Craig Lemieux	Jane Lemieux
September 14	Nancy Erickson	Glen Erickson
September 21	Al Gustner	Sue Gustner
September 28	Lori Stenvold	Stenvold Family

Communion Assistants:

September 7	Craig Magnan	Karen Gabriel
September 14	Judy Crace	
September 21	Curt Miller	Di Miller
September 28	Sue Gustner	Al Gustner

Greeters:

September 7	Wayne Boike	Linda Boike
September 14	Judy Crace	
September 21	Sue Borgfelt	Donna Moore
September 28	Sue Borgfelt	Donne Moore

Coffee Servers:

September 7	Craig Lemieux	Jane Lemieux
September 14	Tom Kluebs	Carol Kluebs
September 21	Al Gustner	Sue Gustner
September 28	Stenvold Family	

We would like to say a big **Thank You** to all of those who volunteer in our Church and in our Community.
Each month Faith Lutheran Church receives a donation that goes into the Good Samaritan Fund.
This donation helps Faith Lutheran Church give to those in need.

Please remember Faith Lutheran Church in your will.



**PLEASE CALL THE OFFICE
OR EMAIL WITH ANY CHANGES IN YOUR
CONTACT INFORMATION.**

Isle Food Shelf

Old Fire Hall, across from Post Office in Isle
(must be a resident of Isle School District) 1st +
3rd Tuesday of the Month from 3:30pm-5:30pm
250 2nd Ave S, Isle, MN, 56342

Fare for All

Fare For All is a pop-up grocery store. We sell packs of
fresh produce and frozen meat at up to 40% off of retail
prices.

Monthly on a Wednesday from 3pm - 5pm.

Fare for All at Onamia Vets Club

2025 Sale Dates

**August 13
September 10**

**October 8
November 5
December 3**

*Thank
you!*



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.



ONAMIA, MN
1ST MONDAY OF
THE MONTH
9:30 AM - 11:00 AM
ONAMIA COMMUNITY CENTER
806 W. KATHIO ST.
ONAMIA, MN

2025 DATES

JANUARY 6	APRIL 7	JULY 7	OCTOBER 6
FEBRUARY 3	MAY 5	AUGUST 4	NOVEMBER 3
MARCH 3	JUNE 2	SEPTEMBER 2*	DECEMBER 1

*Date Change

\$25 Cash Donation
EVERYONE IS WELCOME TO ATTEND!
You Will Receive an Abundance
of Grocery Items
NO Income or Residency
Requirements

Need Additional
Information?
Call (651) 674-0009
www.rubyspantry.org
f RUBY'S PANTRY
f RUBY'S PANTRY - ONAMIA, MN



Save your receipts from Teals

and bring them to church.
Teals donates 1% back to our
Youth Group. On average, we
receive an annual check of
approximately \$1,000.00.

Thank you, Teals!

Church Office Hours
Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday
9:00am-2:00pm
Monday & Friday - Closed

Church Office (320) 676-3161
PO Box 71, Isle, MN 56342



Website: www.faithisle.org
E-mail: yougotfaith@frontier.com

Josh Blair, Pastor (951) 575-5027 Karen Gabriel, Council President