

# Faith Lutheran Church & School

## Forward in Faith

### October - December 2025

*"Where faith meets life"*

*Galatians 2:20*

***Our Mission:***  
***Sharing the word of Jesus Christ through a loving and caring ministry responding to the needs of all people.***

#### STAY CONNECTED

2265 Red Lion Road  
Bear, DE 19701-1849  
OR  
P.O. Box 1000  
Bear, DE 19701

Church 302-834-1214  
School 302-834-3417

#### WORSHIP SERVICES

Contemporary @ 8:15 AM  
Traditional @ 10:30 AM  
Livestream @ 10:30 AM  
5th Sunday @ 9:30 AM

#### WEBSITE:

[www.faith-lutheran.church](http://www.faith-lutheran.church)

#### YouTube:

[www.youtube.com/@FaithLutheranChurchBearDE](http://www.youtube.com/@FaithLutheranChurchBearDE)

#### FACEBOOK:

[www.facebook.com/faith.bear.de](http://www.facebook.com/faith.bear.de)

#### PASTOR'S EMAIL:

[revthress@icloud.com](mailto:revthress@icloud.com)



#### COLOR CHANGES

It's that time of year when the colors of nature change into beautiful reds, oranges, and yellows. Since this newsletter covers the rest of our year through December, it makes me think of all the liturgical color changes that will take place in church as well.

For the past several months we have been in the long green season of the Sundays after Pentecost. We spend about half the calendar year with green on the altar during this long post-Pentecost season as well the post-Epiphany season. But over these final months of the year, we finally see the colors change. So let's consider these seasonal colors and what they mean.

- ❖ The Green of our post-Pentecost season reminds us of growth. During this season (as well as the season of post-Epiphany), we watch the ministry of Jesus unfold and hear letters (epistles) written to congregations of the early church to encourage their spiritual growth.
- ❖ The Red of Reformation Sunday, which is our first color change at the end of October, harkens back to the Red of Pentecost Sunday and the tongues of flame appearing on the disciples as they received the Holy Spirit. On Reformation Day, we give thanks that the Holy Spirit has continued to inspire, lead, and direct His Church from that Day of Pentecost, through the days of the reformers like Martin Luther, all the way into His 21<sup>st</sup> century Church.
- ❖ The White of All Saints Sunday (1<sup>st</sup> Sunday in November), Christ the King (last Sunday of the Church Year toward the end of November), Thanksgiving, and Christmas, as well as Easter, calls to mind God's holiness and His gift of our salvation and declaring us holy. It reminds us of our baptism where our sins were washed away and calls to mind the image in Revelation where the great multitude gathers at the throne of God, wearing white robes that have been washed in the blood of the Lamb.

*Continued*

## ANNOUNCEMENTS & EVENTS

- ❖ The Blue of Advent is a color of Hope, a central theme of Advent. It calls to mind the blue waters of Baptism and the blue sky that makes us think of heaven, eternity, and the presence of God. In the season of Advent, we celebrate God's presence as we prepare for Jesus' birth at Christmas, God's great gift of His full presence – Emmanuel, God with Us.
- ❖ Purple (Violet) is the one liturgical color we won't see until after the new year during the season of Lent. It is a royal color, reminding us of Christ, our crucified and risen King. But it is also a symbol of preparation, which is why it can be used for Advent, as well as repentance and mourning, strong themes of Lent.

I find great joy in considering all that the colors of the Church Year symbolize. These visual reminders are meant to draw us into worship and to reflect on God's presence with us in His Word and Sacraments. As we display these various colors over the next months and throughout the year, I hope you will consider what they mean as we worship our faithful God and Savior in every season.

The Lord bless and keep you.  
In Christ,  
Pastor

### THANKSGIVING & CHRISTMAS WORSHIP SCHEDULE

Thanksgiving Eve – November 26<sup>th</sup> at 7 PM  
Mid-week Advent Services:  
December 3<sup>rd</sup>, 10<sup>th</sup>, & 17<sup>th</sup> at 12 PM & 7 PM  
Children's Christmas Program:  
December 14<sup>th</sup> – 10:30 AM service  
Christmas Eve – December 24<sup>th</sup> at 4 PM & 7 PM  
Service of Lessons & Carols:  
December 28<sup>th</sup> – one service at 9:30 AM

### MONTHLY REMINDERS

1<sup>st</sup> Sunday – Mite Box Mission Collection  
2<sup>nd</sup> Saturday – Food from Faith distribution  
(Volunteers are always needed)

### WEEKLY EVENTS & BIBLE STUDY

Choir practice – Wednesdays at 7 PM  
Women's Bible Study – Thursdays at 10 AM  
Adult Bible Study – Sundays at 9:15 AM  
Children's Sunday School – during 10:30 AM service

### 8/31/2025 Faith Lutheran Church Financial Highlights (2/3's of the year)

|                                                                                                                                                                                                                       | <u>2025 Budget</u> | <u>2/3 Budget @ 8/31</u> | <u>YTD Actual @ 8/31</u> | <u>+/- Change</u> | <u>Comments</u>                |
|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|-------------------|--------------------------------|
| Church Income                                                                                                                                                                                                         | \$274,400.00       | \$182,933.33             | \$168,575.11             | -\$14,358.22      |                                |
| Church Expense (*)                                                                                                                                                                                                    | \$301,382.76       | \$200,921.84             | \$184,398.86             | -\$16,522.98      | (*) Contains \$27,000 for sign |
|                                                                                                                                                                                                                       | <u>12/31/2024</u>  |                          | <u>8/31/2025</u>         | <u>Change</u>     |                                |
| Total Cash Assets                                                                                                                                                                                                     | \$91,828.44        |                          | \$79,878.33              | -\$11,950.11      |                                |
| Total Liabilities                                                                                                                                                                                                     | \$142,596.14       |                          | \$124,407.68             | -\$18,188.46      |                                |
|                                                                                                                                                                                                                       | <u>2025 Budget</u> |                          | <u>YTD @ 8/31/2025</u>   | <u>55.55%</u>     | Based on 9-month budget year   |
| Pre School Income                                                                                                                                                                                                     | \$45,675.00        |                          | \$25,260.00              | 55.30%            |                                |
| Pre School Expense                                                                                                                                                                                                    | \$45,647.10        |                          | \$24,759.50              | 54.24%            |                                |
| In summary, as of August 31st, our income is \$14,358 below budget, but our expenses have been well managed to also keep them below budget. Please feel free to reach out to the treasurer if you have any questions. |                    |                          |                          |                   |                                |
| Submitted by Arne Wilkening, Treasurer                                                                                                                                                                                |                    |                          |                          |                   |                                |

Forward in Faith – October – December 2025

## ANNOUNCEMENTS & EVENTS



### COMING SOON!

After much anticipated waiting, county approvals, and delays, our new electronic sign is finally installed! Electrical connection is expected October 7<sup>th</sup>. If you have any comments or suggestions about the sign content, please let the office know.

## DON'T MISS OUR NEXT COMMUNITY OUTREACH EVENT

### TRUNK OR TREAT

Saturday, October 25th

5:30 PM

Volunteers arrive for setup @ 4:30



**JOIN IN THE FUN** of decorating your trunk and handing out treats to the children from our surrounding communities.

Light supper provided, crafts, and a ghost story, too!

You don't want to miss this **SPOOK-TACULAR** evening! See the **SIGNUP** sheet for details.



From U.S. News & World Report to Forbes and the Princeton Review, Valparaiso University continues to earn national rankings that underscore the return on investment for our students.

#### Our most recent rankings include:

- America's Top Colleges (Forbes)
- Best Bang for the Buck: Midwest (Washington Monthly)
- Best Business Programs (U.S. News & World Report)
- Best Colleges (Niche)
- Best Engineering Programs (U.S. News & World Report)
- Best Master's Universities (Washington Monthly)
- Best National Universities (U.S. News & World Report)
- Best Nursing Programs (U.S. News & World Report)
- Best Online Colleges in Indiana (OnlineU)
- Top 50 Best Online MBA (Princeton Review)
- Top 30 Best Value National Universities (U.S. News & World Report)

From affordability to career success, Valpo is consistently recognized for our value, opportunity, and outcomes. Discover how a Valpo education equips future servant leaders to learn, grow, lead, and thrive – all the way to graduation and beyond.

*If you are interested in learning more about Valparaiso University, feel free to speak with alums, Pastor or Dave Lyons (609-221-4234 or email: [davel Lyons@comcast.net](mailto:davel Lyons@comcast.net))*

## ANNOUNCEMENTS & EVENTS



# Birthday Blessings

### OCTOBER

10/01 Chad Bradford  
 10/01 Michelle Caudill  
 10/01 Jill McLaughlin  
 10/02 Sharon Faverio  
 10/07 Morgan McCrea  
 10/20 Julianne Harp  
 10/23 Ed Barlow  
 10/26 Jamee McGaughan  
 10/27 Alexandra De Luz  
 10/27 Sandi Jobe  
 10/27 Emma Loveless  
 10/28 Maria Faverio  
 10/30 Karlene Jennings

### NOVEMBER

11/01 Emily Jones  
 11/03 Carlene Whitsel  
 11/04 Kim Wanzer  
 11/05 Carlene Martin  
 11/08 Wanda Wilkening  
 11/09 Teri Cordrey  
 11/09 Tara VanSant  
 11/10 Pete Faverio  
 11/15 Christie Moore  
 11/22 Josiah Rufus  
 11/23 Dawn Loveless  
 11/29 Amy Cannavo

### DECEMBER

12/01 Tom Roman  
 12/03 Courtney Rufus  
 12/08 Krista McCrea  
 12/08 Jeff Monsell  
 12/08 Dennis Wanzer  
 12/12 Steve Cannavo  
 12/14 Raychel Thress  
 12/16 Christopher Moore  
 12/17 Aiden Faverio  
 12/18 Karen Barlow  
 12/18 Rylee Garrett  
 12/19 Loren Caudill  
 12/20 Jim McGaughan  
 12/25 Chris Jones  
 12/27 Leah Thress  
 12/28 Jim Martin  
 12/28 Terrie Zelano  
 12/30 Larry MacLaren III  
 12/31 Taylor Bettinger



### NEED A BIRTHDAY GIFT OR STOCKING STUFFER? DO YOU LIKE TO SAVE MONEY?

If you answered yes to either of these questions, please consider supporting Faith's Preschool by purchasing a discount card! The cost is only \$10 and can be used repeatedly through November 2026. The discounts are to local businesses in the surrounding area – Bear, Newark, Middletown & Chesapeake City. Not only would you be supporting local businesses and saving money, but you would also be supporting our preschool!

Discount cards are available Sunday morning and from the church office. Thank you for your support!



## FORWARD IN FAITH

After a decade, the return of **Faith's Fall Festival** was an enormous success! Thank you to Kelly Figgs for her outstanding leadership and organization and to everyone who helped make the day perfect. An estimated 250 folks enjoyed the games, obstacle course, food, magic show, candy drop, hayrides, cupcake, pinecone and pumpkin decorating, basket raffles, a cake walk, and more. Between concessions, basket raffles, the cake walk, and donations, we raised over \$1,300! Plans for next year are already in the works! There will be a wrap-up meeting in the near future. Please plan to participate if you have any suggestions for next year. Here are just a few highlights from the day – enjoy!





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### “FAITH-FULL” WOMAN/WOMEN NEEDED

Faith's chapter of LWML (Lutheran Women in Mission) is currently seeking a "faith-full" woman (or women) to serve as president (or co-leaders) beginning in January 2026. After joyfully serving for over seven years, our current leader, Amy Cannavo, will be "retiring" from this role.

Who are Lutheran Women in Mission? You are the LWML! All women who are communicant members of a Lutheran Church Missouri Synod (LCMS) congregation are eligible to be members of LWML. All you need is a love for others, a desire to share the Gospel message, and a heart to serve. "Lutheran Women in Mission" describes who we are and what we do. Priorities include:

- Support the work of the LWML.
- Fulfill the LWML Mission Statement.
- Promote the object of the LWML (Proclaiming Christ, Supporting Missions, Equipping Women, and Serving Others).
- Encourage use of the official Lutheran Women in Mission publication, the Lutheran Woman's Quarterly.
- Distribute Mite Boxes and gather funds for support of district and LWML mission grants.
- Be an open, welcoming group that encourages participation and new ideas from all women of the congregation.

Please lift up this need in prayer, that the Lord would encourage one of our beautiful ladies to volunteer. Contact Amy Cannavo ([cannavoam@gmail.com](mailto:cannavoam@gmail.com)) with any questions.

### WOMEN OF FAITH HELPING FOOD FROM FAITH FAMILIES

Thank you to everyone who donated and helped to stuff the backpacks for the children from our *Food from Faith* families. Thank you to Kym Caudill for her organization, shopping the sales, and leading us to fill the backpacks. We were able to provide 18 children with backpacks loaded with everything needed to start off the school year!



### WOF UPCOMING EVENTS:

- Oct. 5<sup>th</sup> – LWML Sunday – POSTPONED
- Nov. 23<sup>rd</sup> – Thanksgiving Pie sale
- Dec. 6<sup>th</sup> – Christmas Gathering – details to follow
- Dec. 21<sup>st</sup> – Christmas Cookies sale

### A HUG FROM MATT - FALL & WINTER NEEDS

- Gloves
- Socks
- Gently used and clean winter coats
- Small fleece blankets
- Hand warmers
- Toiletries

*Thank you for helping those less fortunate*

