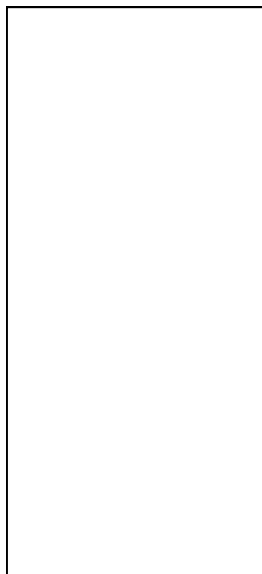


Weekly Worship: Saturday at 5:00 pm, In Person & Live Stream Online, and Sunday at 9:00 am, In Person.
Online Worship updates will be posted on www.faithlutheraneldridge.com and on our Facebook page.
Sunday School Resumes weekly at 10:15 am, starting with Rally Day on September 8th

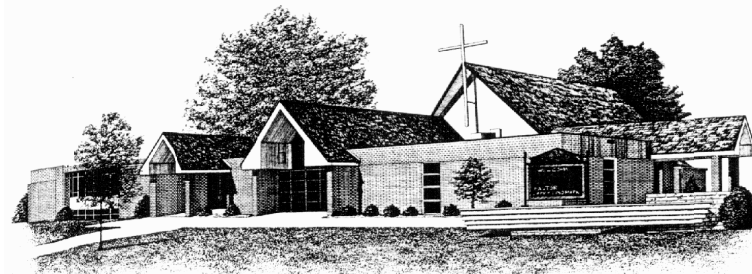
Faith Lutheran Church
500 W. LeClaire Road
Eldridge, IA 52748

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

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED



Faith Lutheran Church



AMBASSADOR

September 2024

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

from the PASTOR



It seems that God is always up to something new. In fact, there are many places in Scripture where God tells us that God is doing something new and asks if we can see or perceive it. In Isaiah 42:9, God declares, "See, the former things have come to pass, and new things I now declare; before they spring forth, I tell you of them." Again, in Isaiah 43:19, God says, "I am about to do a new thing; now it springs forth, do you not perceive it? I will make a way in the wilderness and rivers in the desert." Then, at the very end of the Bible, in Revelation 21:5, "[T]he one who was seated on the throne said, 'See, I am making all things new.'" It seems to me that God is always about making things new in creation, and God is about inviting us into the new things that God is doing so that we can be instruments that share God's love and life and newness with the world.

As we begin this new program year, I am noticing the things that God is making new in this place, and I have to admit, it all seems very exciting. First, over the summer, we were able to purchase and install a new lift up to the Fellowship Hall to replace the one that had lived a good life, but was too tired to be used anymore. Thanks to the generous memorial gifts of many members of this congregation, this new addition was possible. In the next couple of weeks, the sacristy behind the altar area will receive a complete overhaul to make it more user-friendly for our altar guild members thanks to a gift from Carolyn Scheibe's memorial. This fall, we will also begin our Capital Campaign in earnest to make our worship space more accessible to all people who wish to come and "stand near the tracks of faith," as I said in my sermon this past Sunday. God is providing new ways for us to make our worship accessible to the people around us.

As exciting as these realities, and in some ways, even more exciting, are some new programs that we are going to offer this program year. On Friday, August 30, we will host our first Friday Fun Club for the children at Ed White Elementary School to provide a fun and safe place for them to come during early outs one Friday per month. The most exciting thing about this ministry is the number of members of this congregation who have volunteered their time and talent to provide this ministry and opportunity to our community. We are starting somewhat small, but we believe that we are meeting a need in our community to share God's love with our neighbors as we care for their children, and we are hopeful that our numbers will grow throughout the year!

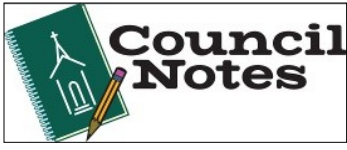
Another new program that is coming is a "Be Our Guest," which will be an opportunity for congregation members and community members to join together for fellowship and learning a couple of times per year. Janice Hartwig writes the following about this new program:

We are inviting you to something new at Faith Lutheran Church. For now, the plan is to meet once in the fall and once in the spring to see how many will gather and show interest in learning from others. These gatherings are open to all community members.

Come on October 10th at 6:30 pm to hear Karen Vandecasteele and Ann McGlynn share with us about Humble Dwellings and Tapestry Farms. We ask you to share in the togetherness, as a community learning about hobbies, adventures, and helpers who offer programs and services in our area and maybe some musical groups. We welcome your ideas and hearing about talents you would be willing to share with others.

God has opened our hearts and our hands to these new ministries and opportunities, and I am convinced that God continues to show us places where God is doing a new thing in our midst. I invite you in this year to keep your ears and your eyes and your hearts open to the next new place where God is calling us, and share what you see and hear and feel with others. Who knows where God might be calling us next? However, I am convinced that wherever it is, it will be exciting and will be a new way to share God's love with those around us! Join us!

In Christ's love,
Pastor Carrie



Our lighted church sign reads “Reflect God - Serve Others,” and “God’s Work. Our Hands.” Jesus said “It is more blessed to give than to receive.”-Acts 20:35. Through service and giving, we learn and

grow in our faith and discipleship. Whether we go to camp, travel to New Orleans to meet brothers and sisters in Christ, or walk to Faith here in Eldridge to do ministry, the act of service to others reflects the love of Christ here on earth. Service to others also enriches the one doing the service. It is important work. I believe in the ministry and mission of the Church. I receive more than I give while serving others. There is more happiness and joy to be found in God when we give, rather than when we receive. Thank you for giving of your time, talent and treasure to our ministry.

Join me in thanking:

-Mary Moore, Sue Sissel, Carol Marten, Joan Hennigan, Nancy Germain, Rhonda Webber, Beth Raiche-Melheim for helping in the office this summer when help was needed.

-Everyone who helped make the outdoor services possible, especially Beckers and Merricks. The effort is appreciated so that we can enjoy worship on our beautiful front lawn.

-Ron Arp, Brad Merrick, Denny Hennigan, and property helpers who helped keep our lawn and landscaping looking so beautiful this summer. The flowers are gorgeous!

-Larry Mohr, Dennis Mohr, Dan O’Flaherty, Mike Garner, Scott LaPlante, and Brad Merrick for removing and facilitating the new lift installation leading up to Fellowship Hall. A needed upgrade for sure! We are thankful for the memorial funds making this update possible.

-Feed Our Children helpers for providing 300-400 free lunches each week to children in the North Scott community during summer break. This program would not be possible without all of our amazing volunteers.

-Service in the World team for serving the July Churches United meal. 55 were served in this important meal ministry.

-Fellowship Team for providing a delicious Anniversary Dinner for 40+ years. Good food, good conversation, and good fun.

The regular council meeting was held August 15. We ratified the approval of Marcia Donaubauer to the Memorial Committee. We discussed annual reviews of both Pastors. This process helps the council to review themselves as well. It is a good way to see where we are, and where the Holy Spirit is leading us. We also discussed Sanctuary Update/Capital Campaign, Sacristy Remodel, new Lift

installation, Narrative Budget formation, Friday Fun Club. As you can see, exciting things are happening at Faith.

Joan Hennigan, Council President (563) 285-6867

RALLY DAY!



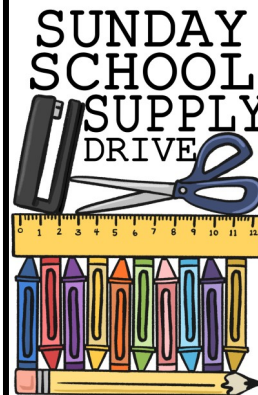
Join Us!

Come join us at 10:15 am Sunday morning, September 8, for free breakfast and Rally Day celebration!

Regular Sunday School classes for all kids ages 3 preschool—6th grade will begin on Sunday, September 15, at 10:15 am.

We look forward to seeing you!

**** If you are interested in helping with Sunday School, please contact Pastor Heather.*



Sunday School is fast approaching. Our Sunday School teachers would be so grateful and appreciative if you could help build up our art supplies by making a donation to our first annual Sunday School Supply Drive. A basket located under the coat rack will gladly accept any donation you would like to make. Listed below are the supplies that are needed. Thanks so much for your help. **Glue, glue sticks, markers, assorted stickers, pipe cleaners, popsicle sticks, cotton balls, star stickers, pom poms, tissue paper squares, water color paints (the ones in the cases – less messy than the acrylic paint), paint brushes, disposable paint smocks (Amazon has them), and plain white paper plates (the cheap kind).** PLEASE NO CRAYONS OR PENCILS – WE HAVE PLENTY. Please contact Betty Strom 217-493-9329 if you have any questions. Thank you so much!



Are you interested in making sure Faith is available for all people looking to connect with Jesus? Join our online streaming team by sign up online: <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/805094EABA62CAAF85-video>

music ministry

You are invited to come and be a part of the music and worship ministry at Faith! Our choirs will start up again on Wednesday, September 4. People of Praise (POP) will be from 6:00-6:55 p.m., and Resounding Joy chime choir will be from 7:00-8:15 p.m. (Both groups rehearse in the sanctuary.) Anyone

high school age and up is welcome to sing in POP. No experience playing chimes is necessary to participate in Resounding Joy; however, an ability to read music is a practical requirement.

If you have any questions, please contact our Music Director, Sue Becker (susan.becker1995@gmail.com). Hope you can join us! Come make a joyful noise to the Lord!



We are looking for Ushers, Readers and Communion Assistants to serve during September. Please sign up using the sheet on the bulletin board or on our website to sign up. **Thank you for serving during worship!**



Do you love to bake? Bread bakers for the communion loaves are needed for the balance of this year. Please sign up on the bulletin board at church.



Ushers and those interested in becoming Ushers...

Our Church Council recently adopted a security plan. The Ushers have a important role in the safety and security of our church. Part of the plan requires quarterly training for the Ushers. The 2nd Training will be held on **Sunday, September 15th @10:15 am** in the Sanctuary. Please plan to attend!

Contact Tom Bauer at (563) 505-5776 for more information.



Summer Worship Outside

Throughout the summer, we have been worshipping at the Outdoor Chapel every other Sunday morning, at 9:00 am. Please bring a lawn chair and join us outside for our last outdoor worship of this summer on **September 1**. If the weather does not cooperate, we will move worship to the sanctuary.



Congregational Breakfast

Join us on **Sunday, September 8**, for our monthly **Congregational Breakfast** following the 9 am worship service. It is our hope that these intergenerational congregational breakfasts will be an opportunity for us to grow in faith and in relationship with one another. *(More info on page 10.)*



Tuesday Afternoon Bible Study

Join us on Tuesday afternoons at 1:00 pm, as we read and discuss the scriptures for the week ahead.



Join with others as our church welcomes children kindergarten through 6th grade to "Friday Fun Club" the **last early dismissal Friday** of each month.

Volunteers are needed in Arts & Crafts, Storytime, Music, Game time and Snack time. Donations of supplies and snack items are also needed.

A sign-up sheet is posted on the bulletin board at church or call Mary Moore at 285-7223 to volunteer.



Join us **October 6 at 11:15 am** for a simple meal and conversations to help us get to know each other. If you plan on attending, please email or call the office to let us know. New Member Welcome will be during the worship services on the weekend of **October 12th & 13th**.

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1 9:00 am Outdoor Worship 10:15 am Fellowship	2 Office Closed  LABOR DAY	3 1:00 pm Bible Study 5:30 pm Food Pantry 6:30 pm Jubilation 6:30 pm VFW Mtg. 	4 5:00 pm Confirmation Meal 5:30 pm Confirmation 6:00 pm People of Praise 7:00 pm High School Youth 7:00 pm Resounding Joy	5 6:30 pm Team Night 7:30 pm Executive Mtg	6 9:30 am Food Pantry 	7 5:00 pm Worship in Sanctuary & Online 
8 9:00 am Worship 10:15 am Congregational Breakfast & Sunday School Rally Day 6:00 pm 4H 	9 Office Closed 6:00 pm Lions Club Mtg	10 1:00 pm Bible Study 5:30 pm Food Pantry 6:30 pm Jubilation 	11 **Sole 4 Souls Ends** 5:00 pm Confirmation Meal 5:30 pm Confirmation 6:00 pm People of Praise 7:00 pm High School Youth 7:00 pm Resounding Joy	12 Team Reports Due 6:30 pm Women of Faith Board Meeting	13 9:30 am Food Pantry 	14 5:00 pm Jubilation Worship in Sanctuary & Online 
15 9:00 am Jubilation Worship 10:15 am Fellowship 10:15 am Sunday School 10:15 am Usher Training	16 Office Closed 6:00 pm Lions Club Exec Mtg	17 9:00 am Quilting 1:00 pm Bible Study 5:30 pm Food Pantry  5:30 pm Churches United Meal	18 5:00 pm Confirmation Meal 5:30 pm Confirmation 6:00 pm People of Praise 7:00 pm High School Youth 7:00 pm Resounding Joy	19 5:15 pm Tailgate Party on lawn 6:00 pm North Scott Homecoming Parade	20 9:30 am Food Pantry   DEADLine	21 5:00 pm Worship in Sanctuary & Online 
22 9:00 am Worship 10:15 am Fellowship 10:15 am Sunday School Afternoon -Pastors leave for Synod Fall Gathering in Coralville	23 Office Closed All Day - Pastors attend Synod Fall Gathering in Coralville	24 1:00 pm Bible Study 5:30 pm Food Pantry 	25 5:00 pm Confirmation Meal 5:30 pm Confirmation 6:00 pm People of Praise 7:00 pm High School Youth 7:00 pm Resounding Joy	26 9:00 am Ambassador Folding  6:30 pm Council Meeting 	27 9:30 am Food Pantry  1:00 pm Friday Fun Club	28 5:00 pm Worship in Sanctuary & Online 
29 NOISY OFFERING 9:00 am Worship 10:15 am Fellowship 10:15 am Sunday School	30 Office Closed					



Congregational
BREAKFAST

Congregational Breakfasts

“Serving Up God’s Word and Good Food”



Congregational
BREAKFAST

It’s the beginning of another great Sunday school learning year at Faith Lutheran. We are looking forward to seeing you at our upcoming congregational breakfast following the 9 am worship service. At each breakfast, the Bible story for the day will be explored through questions that guide your table conversation. It is our hope that these intergenerational congregational breakfasts will be an opportunity for you to grow in faith and in relationship with one another.

On Rally Day, September 8, we will kick off the beginning of the Sunday school year with a congregational pancake meal that will be provided by our meal ministry team. Again, to kick off the winter session, we will have another pancake breakfast as we welcome our friends from Lutheran Lakeside to get us excited for summer camp. On Easter Sunday, the high school youth will provide an Easter Breakfast to raise funds for the 2025 Mission Trip. The remaining congregational breakfasts will be coordinated potlucks. We ask members to consider contributing designated meal items as well as time. For each meal, a sign-up will be posted on the bulletin board near the sanctuary entrance, and a sign-up genius will be available for online convenience. Thank you in advance for making these meals a success.



Pancake Breakfast

Remember that breakfast begins at 10:15 am on the following Sundays:

September 8: Rally Day and Sunday school registration

October 20

November 17

December 15: Children’s Christmas program

January 5: Winter Rally Day with special guests from Lutheran Lakeside

February 9

March 9

April 20: Easter breakfast hosted by High School Youth Group

Homecoming Parade Tailgate



North Scott Homecoming Parade

Thursday, September 19th @ 5:15 pm

The North Scott Clergy Group will be hosting a Tailgate Party at Faith Lutheran Church beginning at 5:15 pm on Thursday, September 19, before the North Scott Homecoming Parade. Everyone in the community is invited to come and join us for hot dogs, chips, water, and other treats, so please come and invite your friends to come for some food and to enjoy the parade from our lawn. We look forward to celebrating the Lancers together!



The Fellowship Team hosted a **“40+” Anniversary Dinner** on August 18, 2024. A good time was had by all!





Our Kids are awesome! During the school year, our Sunday School kids collect an offering. The offering they have collected over the last couple of years has been sent to Gods Global Barnyard. The kids wanted to buy animals. Through their generosity, they bought a family farm (cow, pigs, goats and chickens), a rooster, additional chickens, honeybees and vegetable garden and school supplies for a classroom. Through their generosity, families on the other side of the globe can provide food for their families and friends, start small businesses and help provide the necessary supplies for the education of future generations. Our Sunday School Kids are making a real difference!



CHURCHES UNITED MEAL—Is food your love language? Help serve those in need. Faith is partnering with Churches United to serve a meal on **Tuesday, September 17th** at Zion Lutheran Church in Davenport. The Worship and Music Team will be leading the meal, and will need your help. Sign up on the bulletin board for ingredients and supplies, or to help prepare and serve the food. We hope to see you at this meaningful food ministry. Thanks for your support!

Service in the World Outreach Funds

This August, the Service in the World committee donated \$100 to Kings Harvest No Kill Shelter through Faith's Outreach ministry. King's Harvest Pet Rescue's assistance programs provide free pet food, pet surrender opportunities, temporary homes for pets and low-cost spaying/neutering for the homeless and low income families in the Quad Cities. More information on Kings Harvest can be found at kingsharvestpetrescue.org.

Service in the World



SOLES 4 SOULS | Turning shoes and clothing into opportunity

Faith is collecting new and gently worn shoes for the Eldridge Lion's Club for the Soles4Souls program. You may donate all styles, types and sizes of shoes, as long as they are gently worn. They even take mismatched singles! The donation collection will run August 12th through September 11th. More information about this program can be found at soles4souls.org.

North Scott Community Feed Our Children Ministry



Thank you to the dozens of volunteers that helped us serve over 3,000 lunches to children in the North Scott community this summer. A special thank you to **Amy Powell** and **Sammie Garner** for organizing and managing our daily operations and inventory this summer!

Did You Know? Luther Properties is an ELCA founded organization providing safe and affordable housing for older adults. Through church and personal donations, we also provide fellowship events that enhance our resident's daily lives, such as therapy dog visits and holiday meals. And YOU can now donate to Luther Properties through Thrivent, using your Thrivent Choice Dollars! To learn more about Luther Properties and our 5 local residences, go to www.lutherproperties.org



With Appreciation...

August Ambassador folders: **Sue Braack, Pam Englebrecht, Darlene John, Carol Marten, Mary Jo McVey, and Tammy Neff.**

Thank you to Carol Marten and Sue Sissel for folding the August bulletins. The help was very much appreciated!

Thank you to Carol Marten and Sue Sissel for covering a couple of days in the office during August.

FAITH LUTHERAN FINANCES

	JULY	YEAR-TO-DATE
INCOME*	\$20,791	\$210,735
EXPENSES	\$31,713	\$217,959

*Monthly income needed to meet budget is \$32,990



The new lift has been installed!! It looks so nice, and it moves so smoothly!! There are also a number of safety features on it that the old one did not have, so we are grateful for the upgrade!! We have to wait for an inspection for it to be fully in use, which should happen the last week of

August. Getting this far is super exciting! Thank you to all of the families who approved the use of the memorial funds of their loved ones for the purchase of this lift.



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

Mindy Arp	September 8	Barbara Weltzin	September 22
Ruth Staudt	September 9	Chris Copley	September 23
Sally Hamann	September 9	Judi Hamann	September 25
Kenny Oetzmann	September 12	Carol Kuehl	September 26
Donna Benskin	September 12	Teri Wittkowski	September 26
Kim Wilkins	September 13	Doug Paulsen	September 29
Merle Anderson	September 14		
Val Zelinko	September 20		



Kenny & Sue Oetzmann
September 10, 1966
Don & Judi Hamann
September 26, 1968



Food Pantry Needs

Food Pantry Needs for the month of September are canned fruit, pasta, and soup other than chicken noodle or tomato. *Thank you for your continued support!*



MISSIONARY SPONSORSHIP

Thank you to **Tom & Pam Carlson** for sponsoring the **Bencke family**, to **Tammera Long** for sponsoring **John Chima**, and to **Ida Weibel** for sponsoring **Denisse Grefa** in September.

There are many sponsorship opportunities available in November and December 2024. The cost for sponsorship is **\$45/month** each for our Compassion Children **John Chima** and **Denisse Grefa** and **\$45/month** for the **Bencke family**. **You can sign up online on Faith's web page, in person on the bulletin board, or by calling the church office at (563)285-4501.** *Thank you for your support!*