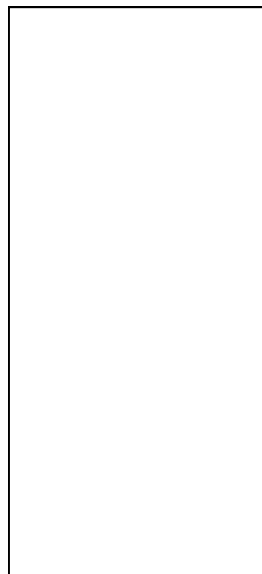


Weekly Worship: Saturday at 5:00 pm, In Person & Live Stream Online, and Sunday at 9:00 am, In Person.
Online Worship updates will be posted on www.faithlutheraneldridge.com and on our Facebook page.
Outdoor Worship on Sundays at 9 am, June 8, June 22, and June 29.

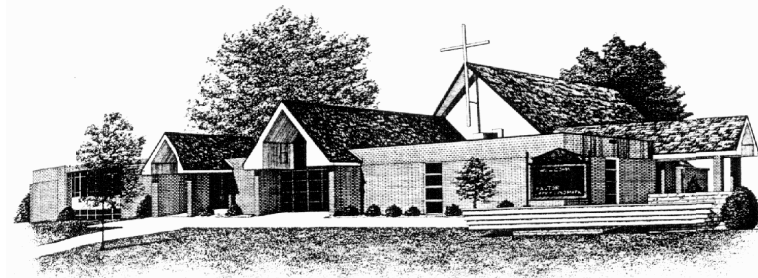
Faith Lutheran Church
500 W. LeClaire Road
Eldridge, IA 52748

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

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED



Faith Lutheran Church



AMBASSADOR

June 2025

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



Dear Friends in Christ,

We are now at the end of the season of Easter, and we are headed toward Pentecost and into the long season after Pentecost which will take us through the summer and fall. As we prepare for Pentecost, the coming of the Holy Spirit, we were reminded last weekend of Jesus' promise to send the Holy Spirit. As Jesus was sitting with his disciples around the table at the last supper, Jesus spoke these words to the disciples: "I have said these things to you while I am still with you. But the Advocate, the Holy Spirit, whom the Father will send in my name, will teach you everything, and remind you of all that I have said to you. Peace I leave with you; my peace I give to you. I do not give to you as the world gives. Do not let your hearts be troubled, and do not let them be afraid." Jesus is promising the disciples that they will not be left alone after he is gone. They will have the Holy Spirit to lead and guide them, and they will be filled with Jesus' peace in the face of all of the trial that will come.

As I read these words again over the weekend, with all of the graduation events we were celebrating, these promises felt very appropriate to me. As I think of Abby and her classmates moving into the next phase of life where they will not always have immediate access to parents and some of the supports that have helped them to navigate life to this point, the importance of this reminder that they are never left alone becomes even more clear. I know that there will be times when the transition to a new way of life will bring trials, fears, and wonderings about how life will play out in this new place in the midst of the joys of this new freedom. My prayer is that Abby will remember Jesus' promise to be with her and that she will take the time to stop and listen and pray for Christ's peace and the Spirit's guidance as decisions are made. As a parent who will not be there to guide Abby through the trials and joys that she will face, trusting that the Holy

Spirit that filled her at her baptism will be with her, and that Jesus will continue to lead and guide her does give me a sense of peace in the face of this transition.

However, it is not just a promise for our graduates, but these promises are for all those who follow Jesus. When we face struggles, we too have the promise of the Holy Spirit that was given us in our baptism. When we were marked with the sign of the cross and sealed by the Holy Spirit forever, we too were promised that the Holy Spirit will always be with us to advocate for and walk alongside of us. Jesus has given us his peace that can bring us calm in the midst of the chaos that can surround us and helps to quell our fears when situations in our lives feel overwhelming. We can trust that we will never be left alone, and Jesus will provide for us in ways that this world will never be able to do. This is where we find hope when things otherwise feel hopeless.

Thanks be to God for these promises that hold us each and every day. Thanks be to God for the guidance of the Spirit that leads us in the ways that God desires us to go, both individually and together as the people of God gathered in this place. I pray that each of us can lean into these promises and take time to stop and listen for the Spirit's guidance as together we seek to share these promises with those around us so that they can find this same peace in their lives.

Blessings to each of you as we enter these summer days.

In Christ's love,
Pastor Carrie





Please join us for our Annual Parking Lot Picnic on Sunday, June 29, 2025 at 10:30 AM.

This will be a potluck brunch following the worship service. Ham, lemonade, water and table service will be provided by the Fellowship Team. Please bring a favorite side dish and/or dessert to share. A variety of yard games for all ages will be available! Of course there will be plenty of time for fellowship! Please sign up on the bulletin board so we can be sure to have enough food and chairs!

Summer Worship Outside



Worship at the Outdoor Chapel has returned. Every other Sunday morning, we will alternate our 9:00am worship between the outdoor chapel and the inside Sanctuary, through June 15th. If the weather does not cooperate, we will move worship inside. Please bring a lawn chair and join us outside this summer on **June 8. Beginning June 22, through August 31, every Sunday worship will be outdoors, weather permitting.**



The Ushers have an important role in the safety and security of our church. Part of our safety plan requires quarterly training for the Ushers. Quarterly training will be held on **Sunday, June 15 @ 10:15 am** in the Sanctuary.



With People of Praise, Jubilation, and Resounding Joy taking a well-deserved break for the summer, there are many opportunities upcoming to provide special music. If you are interested in sharing your time and talent in a musical way during June, July, or August, at either the Saturday evening or Sunday morning worship service, we'd love to hear you! Contact our Music Director, Sue Becker, at susan.becker1995@gmail.com, or (563) 386-2896 to schedule a time. Thank you in advance for enriching our worship!



“Sunshine is sweet; it is good to see the light of day.” Ecclesiastes 11:7

Summer will be here soon. I hope you are enjoying the sweet sunshine and daylight that we experience this time of year. We sometimes think the life of the church slows down during summer, but that is not necessarily the case. We have North Scott Feed Our Children Ministry, VBS, church parking lot picnic, outdoor worship, campers and adult helpers going to Lutheran Lakeside, youth and adult helpers heading to Denver for Youth Mission trip. These are all ways that we can grow in faith while having fun.

Join me in thanking:

- People of Praise, Jubilation, and Resounding Joy for providing beautiful music for worship throughout the school year.
- Women of Faith and friends, especially Joni Schneider, for providing plants and various items for sale at the Parking Lot Plant Sale. It is a nice outreach and service to our community.
- Jim Schneider for presenting his inspiring Sunday School talk on May 18. He urges us to find a deeper joy right now through faith, gratitude, and perspective. Much to ponder and consider as we live our lives every day.
- Jan Hartwig, Pam Engelbrecht, Rita Smith and all who helped plan, advertise, invite, and participate in the “Be Our Guest” event on May 18. It was informative, uplifting, fun, and the homemade treats were yummy!
- The Worship and Music Team for preparing and serving the May Churches United meal. It is an important meal ministry and we are grateful for their work.
- Linda Szemkus for planting and watering the flowers in the outside planter by the sign. They add to the beauty of our church.

Continued on next page...

- All Final Friday helpers, especially Carrie Keppy for organizing the event. It is an important, fun and visible outreach in our community, while also encouraging relationships among all age groups.
- Mary Moore and the entire Friday Fun Club team for providing safe, fun activities for Ed White students on the last early dismissal Friday of each month. This program would not be possible without our amazing volunteers.
- Ron Arp, Brad Merrick, Denny Hennigan and helpers for mowing and watering the church lawn. It looks gorgeous!
- 7th grade class who helped make the confirmation celebration dinner on April 23 special and also to Diane Krebs and Joni King for cooking most of the meal.

The regular Council Meeting was held on Thursday, May 15. Tom Bauer presented Safety/Security plan update that was approved by council. Discussed sanctuary update schedule and plans. Discussed rising property insurance costs. There will be no July Team Night or Council Meeting. Both will resume in August at their regular meeting times.

Joan Hennigan, Council President, 563-285-6867



Bristol Schoenthaler, Pastor Carrie Lewis La Plante, and Benjamin Lewis
Confirmation, April 27, 2025



North Scott Community Feed Our Children Ministry

North Scott Community Feed Our Children Ministry was established to provide a free lunch opportunity to our children in the North Scott community during the summer break. During the summer, many children in our neighborhoods are underserved through the loss of the weekday free and reduced lunch program. Additionally, there are underserved children not yet school age, as well as those recently graduated. For some families, simply having more mouths to feed during the summer places additional stress on existing resources.

Our goal is to provide a free, nutritious lunch to children in our community through this twice a week ministry, on Tuesdays and Thursdays from June 10-August 21. We will assemble lunches at Faith Lutheran Church, 500 W. LeClaire Rd, Eldridge. Lunches will be distributed throughout the North Scott Community.

****WE NEED YOUR HELP****

***Volunteers:** We need your help! Volunteers are needed to prepare and serve lunches. Preparations begin at 10:00 am in the kitchen at Faith Lutheran Church. Lunches will be ready for distribution at 11:15, in order to reach the children from 11:30 am-12:30 pm. We will distribute at sites in Eldridge, Dixon, Donahue, Princeton, and Park View. We need volunteers to pick up, deliver and distribute the lunches.

***Supplies:** We are seeking donations of sliced bread, cheese slices, smooth peanut butter, grape jam (not jelly – jam spreads better), potato chips, 100% juice boxes, Oreos, Rice Krispie Treats, Go-Gurts, string cheese, and fruit and applesauce cups. We also need sandwich baggies and paper lunch bags.

***Pray,** Spread the word, and Listen: Feed Our Children Ministry is successful when we actually get lunches into the hands (and bellies) of our children. Please pray for this ministry – for those in need, as well as those who prepare and serve. Please share the news of this ministry in and around your neighborhood. Please keep your eyes and ears open for opportunities to reach children. If you hear of children in a neighborhood that could benefit from this ministry, please let us know!

To volunteer or donate items, please contact Amy Powell (563-940-5880). You may also sign up at Faith or online. To donate:

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/4090B4DACAC23A7F85-56484264-2025>

To volunteer:

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/4090B4DACAC23A7F85-56460952-2025>



North Scott Community Feed Our Children

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1 9:00 am Worship in the Sanctuary 10:15 am Fellowship 10:15 am Private Event (FH)	2 Office Closed 6:00 pm Lions Club Mtg	3 5:30 pm Food Pantry 6:30 pm VFW	4 10:00 am Grand Haven	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 Outdoor Worship 10:15 am Fellowship	9 Office Closed 6:00 pm Lions Club Exec Meeting	10 10:00 am Feed Our Children 5:30 pm Food Pantry 	11	12 10:00 am Feed Our Children 	13 9:30 am Food Pantry  5:00 pm Wedding Rehearsal	14 3:00 pm Wedding 5:00 pm Worship in Sanctuary & Online 
15 Father's Day 9:00 am Worship in the Sanctuary 10:15 am Fellowship 10:15 am Usher Training 10:45 am Offering Counter Training	16 Office Closed Construction Begins in Sanctuary	17 10:00 am Feed Our Children 5:30 pm Food Pantry 	18	19 Team Reports Due 10:00 am Feed Our Children 11:30 am—Bookmobile 6:30 pm Church Council Meeting 	20 Office Hours 9-12 9:30 am Food Pantry  Ambassador DEADLine	21 5:00 pm Worship in Fellowship Hall & Online 
22 9:00 am Outdoor Worship 10:15 am Fellowship 6:00 pm VBS 	23 Office Closed 6:00 pm VBS 	24 10:00 am Feed Our Children 5:30 pm Food Pantry 6:00 pm VBS 	25 6:00 pm VBS 	26 9:00 am Ambassador Folding Team 10:00 am Feed Our Children 6:00 pm VBS 	27 9:30 am Food Pantry 	28 NOISY OFFERING 5:00 pm Worship in Fellowship Hall & Online with Bishop Current 
29 NOISY OFFERING 9:00 am Outdoor Worship with Bishop Current 10:30 am Parking Lot Picnic	30 Office Closed	 Vacation Bible School is this Month!				Key: (FH) - Fellowship Hall (MP) Multipurpose Room (GS) Gathering Space



Faith Lutheran Church VBS invites Travelers PreK—5th grade to join us on our *Road Trip! On the Go With God* to explore how God is with us at all times.

During Vacation Bible School Travelers will join our Navigator and Scout, an energetic and curious dog puppet, on a Road Trip where they will learn that God is with them in whatever situation they may face. Travelers will accompany a Navigator and Scout during each assembly session and learn to face new challenges while trusting in God. Each day, Travelers will be led through twists, turns, excitement and anticipation as they make their way on the road trip. With the help of great stories from the Navigator's Guide (the Bible) travelers will explore timeless Bible stories that show how people from the Bible journeyed with God to many locations and found strength in God's presence wherever they went.

As the Travelers experience the stories through music, drama and storytelling, games, arts and crafts, science, and even snacks, they learn ways to connect with and trust God. And best of all, they understand they can connect with God at VBS, church, home, and every area of their lives. Road Trip! invites children on an exciting journey where they learn to trust God no matter what situation life brings and know that God is always with them, and feel confident in sharing the good news of God's love through Jesus Christ.

The fun begins Sunday, June 22 and continues through Thursday, June 26 from 6:00 pm-8:00 pm at the church, 500 W. LeClaire Rd., Eldridge.

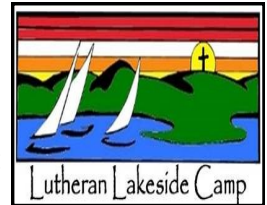
To join the exciting and action packed Road Trip please register on our website at <http://www.faithlutheraneldridge.com>. Or obtain a registration form at the church. Volunteers are also needed! To help, please contact Cindy Zabel (563) 210-4169.



At Luther Properties, our mission is to provide safe and affordable quality housing to low-income elderly or disabled persons. To accomplish this, we work with the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development to provide subsidized, independent residential housing to persons who are eligible to receive such assistance. When our churches also partner with us, we are able to provide more than just a home. Activities can be planned to encourage fellowship and a sense of community when a congregation or an individual makes a financial gift to Luther Properties. Please consider giving to help those who are often forgotten. To learn more, visit our website at www.lutherproperties.org.

Missed Summer Camp Registration? You can still join us!

We hope that many of you will join us for summer camp at **Lutheran Lakeside, July 20-25**, "the best week ever." There are camp options for Children Grades 3—Adult! Please see last month's Ambassador for registration instructions, or contact Pastor Carrie at pastorcarrie@csteldridge.com or call or text 641-275-1326.



OFFERING COUNTERS

We are in need of some additional members to join our offering counter team. Offering Counter Training for those interested will be held on **Sunday, June 15, at 10:45 am** in the Sanctuary. Contact Rhonda Webber if you have any questions about this service opportunity.



PUZZLE



Wind, fire & spirit

Acts 2 describes the amazing events of Pentecost, when the apostles received the Holy Spirit.

Directions: The last letter(s) of each word is the beginning letter of the next. Fill in the missing words to complete Acts 2:1-4, NIV.

1. HEAV

2. ABLE

3. AY OF PENTECOS

4. ONGUE

5. PIRI

6. OGETHE

7. ES

8. ONGUE

9. A

10. IND



"When the _____ came, they were all _____ in one place. Suddenly a sound like the blowing of a violent _____ came from _____ and filled the whole house where they were sitting. They _____ what seemed to be _____ of fire that separated and came to _____ on each of them. All of them were filled with the Holy _____ and began to speak in other _____ as the Spirit _____ them."

ACTS 2:1-4, NIV

Answer: 1. heaven, 2. enabled, 3. day of Pentecost, 4. tongues, 5. Spirit, 6. together, 7. rest, 8. tongues, 9. saw, 10. wind



With Appreciation...

Thank you to our May Ambassador folders: Sue Braack, Sue Casel, Pam Engelbrecht, Nancy Germain, Darlene John, Carol Marten, Mary Jo McVey, Tammy Neff, and Sue Sissel (Some did double duty -THANK YOU!!).

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

Thank you to Rhonda Webber, Rita Smith, and Nancy Germain for help in the office during May.

FAITH LUTHERAN FINANCES

	APRIL	YEAR-TO-DATE
INCOME*	\$ 24,878	\$128,850
EXPENSES	\$31,500	\$120,171

*Monthly income needed to meet budget is \$33,818



The final total of the 2025 Special Easter Offering was \$2,395. This was sent to Lutheran Services in Iowa. Thank you for your generous giving!



Tuesday Afternoon Bible Study

The Tuesday afternoon bible study is on break over the summer. We will resume meeting on **Tuesday, August 26th**.

"Service in the World Outreach Funds"

The Service in the World Outreach mission donated \$125 to The Center in May. The Center is a non-profit that focuses on Christ's love in three major areas: youth empowerment for spiritual development and leadership, homeless outreach providing showers and meals, and neighborhood advocacy offering gatherings and meetings. More information on The Center can be found at www.thecenterdavenport.com.



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

Jan Hartwig	June 2	Bob Bainter	June 15
Sue Oetzmann	June 2	Darrell Weltzin	June 15
Myron Scheibe	June 2	Carolyn Dannatt	June 16
Don Rathjen	June 4	John McCammant	June 18
Diane Hall	June 7	Peggy Sleep	June 21
Karen O'Flaherty	June 8	Ron Meyer	June 30
Donna Darnall	June 13	David Cole	June 30

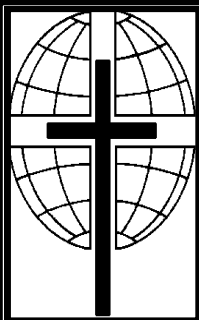


Gary & Connie Rohwer	June 16, 1973
Val & Kathryn Zelinko	June 19, 1971
Gary & Joni King	June 28, 1975
Kevin & Debbie Jenkins	June 28, 1975

Food Pantry Needs



Food Pantry Needs for the month of June are kid-friendly food items for the "extras" summer shelf, such as spaghetti, ravioli, fruit cups, peanut butter & jelly, etc.



MISSIONARY SPONSORSHIP

Thank you to Bob & Carol Kuehl for sponsoring the **Bencke family** in June. Thank you to **Tom & Pam Carlson** for sponsoring Compassion Children Denisse Grefa and **John Chima** in June.

There are many sponsorship opportunities available in 2025. 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!**



The monthly church newsletter, the Ambassador, is available online on our web site, at <https://faithlutheranelldridge.com/news-and-events/the-ambassador/>

In effort to be better stewards of resources, we are reducing the number of paper copies we produce and mail. You have a choice in how you receive the Ambassador. You can visit the web site at your convenience, you may request that we email you a link and a pdf copy each month, or you can request to continue to receive a paper copy in the mail each month. In order to help us know your preference, please complete and return this form to the office, (or email the church at faitheldridge@netins.net.) Thank you!

Name _____

____ We will read the Ambassador online (no email, no paper).

____ We prefer to receive a pdf copy and online link each month. Please send emails to the following addresses:

Email: _____

Email: _____

Email: _____

Email: _____

____ We would like to continue to receive a paper copy of the Ambassador in the mail.

Our goal is to begin this with the July 2025 Newsletter. **Please return your responses to us no later than June 20th.** This project will require some manual setup in our system, so we ask for patience as we work out the bugs. Thank you!