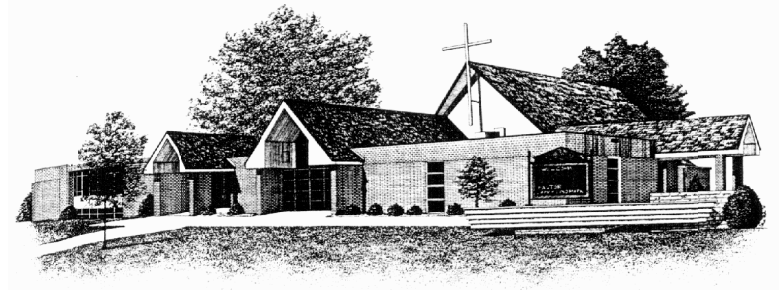


Faith Lutheran Church



AMBASSADOR

September 2022

Rev. Dr. Carrie Lewis La Plante
Rev. Heather Geest

500 W. LeClaire Road
Eldridge, IA 52748
(563) 285-4501

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faitheldridge@netins.net

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Grace-Gifted, Faith-Lifted
Called to Share, Seek, and
Serve Christ



Dear Friends in Christ,

It is hard to believe that the summer has so quickly come to an end, and we are getting

back to our school-year schedules regardless of whether we have kids in school or not. Yet, there is excitement as we begin this new program year with all of the possibilities that lie ahead of us. I believe that God continues to do new things among us, and I am excited to see where it is that Jesus is leading us into the future.

The prophet Isaiah proclaimed these words to the people of Israel in the midst of exile, as they were trying to figure out what was coming next and where God was in the midst of it all:

“Do not remember the former things,
or consider the things of old.
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. (Isaiah 43:18-19)

I do not know that we can forget the former things, particularly all these things that we have gone through in these last couple of years, and I believe that there are many things that we have learned and can still learn from all that we have gone through. But I also believe that God has been and is doing a new thing among us. God is making a new way forward for all of us, and, as I have talked with many people, especially those who have joined us in recent months, God is using our congregation to make a way in the wilderness in which they have found themselves and to provide rivers for people in their deserts. I hope and pray that in this new year, we can continue to listen for where Jesus is calling us, and experience God's leadership and guidance into the future God already has in mind for us.

We seek to live into this newness and to be open to where God is calling us. We have some upcoming opportunities in the months ahead to help us do that. We hope that you will be part of these events and that you will invite others to join us as well. The details of many of these events, including Confirmation, High School Youth Group, Rally Weekend, Sunday School, Adult Education opportunities and more can be found elsewhere in this Ambassador, but following are a few highlights of special events that are coming soon.

One of the most exciting opportunities in September is a visit from Bishop Amy Current. She will be our preacher for the weekend of September 17 and 18, and there will be an opportunity to have conversation with her following each service.

On September 29, the North Scott Clergy Group will host the Homecoming Tailgate Party here at Faith. It will be a wonderful opportunity for all of our congregations to show unity as we celebrate with the North Scott Community School District. If you would like to help us with this party, please let me know.

I am also excited to announce that we will be having a New Member Welcome at the beginning of October. As we have had a number of people begin to worship with us in recent months, we will offer an opportunity for them to officially join us. We will gather on October 2 at 11:15 am for a meal and conversation, and then on October 8 and 9, we will welcome those who wish to become members.

As you can see, there are new and different things happening along with all of the events that we have come to love. Our Mutual Ministry Team continues to work with the Congregation Council to think and dream of other ways that we can continue to grow together and reach into the community in new ways. We are always glad to hear your ideas for furthering our ministry as well.

Thank you for all of the ways that you share in the ministry in this place, and blessings to you in all of your exciting new beginnings.

In Christ's love,
Pastor Carrie

Bishop Amy Current, Southeastern Iowa Synod, to Visit September 17 and 18



On Saturday, September 17, and Sunday, September 18, Bishop Amy Current will be with us for worship. She will be preaching and bringing greetings from the larger Southeastern Iowa Synod. We will also have opportunities after each of the services for conversation with Bishop Current. She will share with us some of the ministries of the Southeastern Iowa Synod, and she will give us the opportunity to ask her questions that we might have. We hope you will join us on this weekend to help us welcome Bishop Current to Faith Lutheran Church.

Church COUNCIL

School is back in session, and the learning year has begun. Please join others here at Faith as we resume adult learning, Sunday school, confirmation classes, high school youth group, and choir practices after a summer break. September 11th will be Rally Day where we gather for

breakfast and kick off the programs that bring us together for learning and fun. In addition to our regular activities, our Mutual Ministry team has been dreaming of new ways for us to share our gifts and God's love with our community and each other. Some of their ideas include: Outdoor movie nights for the community on our lawn next summer. A Wednesday church night that expands the programming beyond confirmation and HS youth to include a meal and worship for all. A monthly community meal open to everyone, those who are food insecure, as well as those who just don't want to plan and prepare a meal. Hosting musical performances from the community at our church. All of the things listed above happen when people are willing to help come together and make it happen. Just like the ideas gathered during the Listening Posts earlier this year, the ideas are waiting for people to make them reality. Be one of those people. The time spent will be rewarding and make God's light brighter.

Join us in thanking:

-All those who helped with the extra set up for outdoor worship. Neil and Sue Becker, outdoor ushers, the pastors, and anyone who lent a hand each week.

-Betty Strom for her work organizing the Sunday School supply room. A big job for sure.

-Everyone who helped keep the lawn and landscaping looking good this summer. I will not even try to name everyone, as I know that many people drop in and pull weeds, trim bushes, and all the other little things that make our yard beautiful. Thanks to you all.

On August 18th the council held its regular meeting. The expenses in July were only slightly higher than the giving, and the council thanks all those who have given. Things are looking up, but the council is still being good stewards of resources we have. Worship times were also discussed and you can read about that elsewhere in this issue. Know that the decision was well thought out and carefully considered by many. Finally, the Service In The World team is looking to make the Churches United Meal for those in need more of a congregation effort, and less just the same few people. This is another opportunity to serve our neighbors as we enjoy each other. The SITW team will happily guide you through the process.

Mike Garner, Council President
563-349-4459



JOIN OUR MUSIC MINISTRY

Holy scripture is described as "The Word of God". In the same fashion, sacred music has been called "The Voice of God". Our music ministry is an avenue through which participants can bless the Lord, their church, and each other by offering their musical gifts during our weekly worship services.

You are warmly invited to be a part of the music and worship ministry here at Faith. People of Praise choir will begin rehearsals on Wednesday, September 7, at 6:15 p.m., in the sanctuary. All singers, high school age and up, are welcome to come join us. Our chime choir, Resounding Joy!, will also begin their rehearsals on that same evening at 7:15 p.m., also in the sanctuary. We welcome all those who are high school age and up, and who are able to read music, to be a part of this group. Come join the fun and fellowship as we make music together!

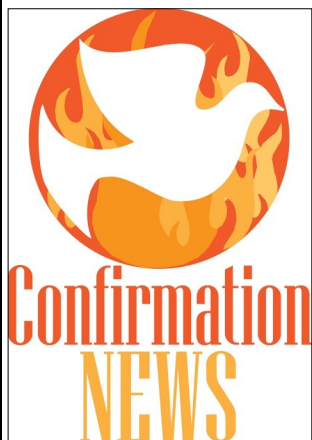
If you have questions, feel free to contact our Music Director, Sue Becker, 386-2896, or susan.becker1995@gmail.com.



Worship Time Change for Sunday

After prayerful review of attendance, the Worship time for Sunday mornings will continue to be at 9:00 am until the end of the calendar year, at which time the worship schedule will be reevaluated. In keeping with our 2022 congregational priorities, having members from both services together will advance the healing personal relationships and the strengthening intergenerational relationships. COVID-19 changed all church families, and we would like potential new members to see us strong and building our relationship with Jesus and each other. With members being in multiple music groups, one service will make the schedule less demanding with performances being rotated, possibly attracting more people to participate.

We still have 3 opportunities to worship: 5:00 pm Saturday, 9:00 am Sunday, and Online Worship conveniently viewable. As we realize there will always be differing views on the time to worship, your church council felt we must do what is best for the church body as a whole, and we are always receptive to member input.



Confirmation

A New Year for Confirmation

Thank you to all who attended the Confirmation meal and informational meeting on Wednesday, August 31st. If you were unable to make it, please join us **Wednesday September 7**, for our first week of the regular classes. We will begin with a **meal at 5:00 pm** and our **Confirmation Conversations from 5:30 to 6:45 pm**. We look forward to seeing you!



High School Youth Group

The High School Youth Group will begin their regular Wednesday evening gatherings on September 7 from 7:00 pm - 8:30pm. We invite you to join us for food, fun, faith formation and fellowship.



Sunday School Rally Day is Sunday, September 11! Spark All Kids!

Get ready for Sunday School this fall at Faith! We are planning on gathering together in person for a fun-filled year of learning more about the story of God's amazing love through Jesus. Each Sunday all children age 3 through 6th grade will be invited to join together in one classroom for our Bible-based Sunday school. The curriculum is called Spark All Kids and covers the big stories of the Bible. A typical Spark All Kids lesson follows a four-part sequence: Gather, Open the Bible, Activate Faith, and Experience the Salvation story arc.

We are looking forward to growing together in faith at Faith Lutheran Church. **Rally Day begins at 10:15am on September 11th with a free pancake breakfast for the whole congregation! Come join us!**

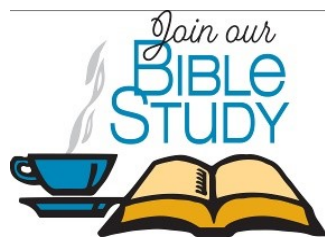
If you would like more information about the upcoming 2022-2023 Sunday school ministry and/or you are interested in teaching and leading our children on Sunday mornings, please contact Theresa White, our Christian Ed Chair, at tswhite777@gmail.com.



Adult Faith Formation




















We begin this new program year with two opportunities for Adult Faith Formation, and we invite you to join us.

Tuesday Bible Study: On Tuesday, September 6, at 1:00 pm, we will resume our weekly Bible study. We study the readings for the following Sunday, and discuss how those readings connect to our lives.



Sunday Adult Study: Our first day of Adult Study will be Sunday, September 25, at 10:15 am. On that date, we will discuss the topics, books of the Bible, or other things that we would like to discuss through the year. On September 11, we will join the rest of the congregation for the Congregation Breakfast. On September 18, we will have the opportunity to meet and talk with Bishop Amy Current.

We look forward to having you join us for one of these opportunities. If you have another time or another topic that you would like to study, please let Pastor Carrie or Pastor Heather know, and we will seek to make it happen.

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
				1 6:30pm Team Night	2 9:30am Food Pantry 	3 5pm Worship in Sanctuary & Online 
4 9am Worship 10am Fellowship Hour	5 <i>Office Closed</i> 	6 1 pm Bible Study 5:30 pm Food Pantry  6:30pm VFW (FH)	7 5 pm Confirmation Meal 5:30 pm Confirmation 6:15 pm Senior Choir 7 pm High School Youth 7:15 pm Resounding Joy!	8 <i>Team Reports Due</i> 6:30pm Executive Committee Meeting	9 9:30am Food Pantry 	10 5pm Jubilation Worship in Sanctuary & Online 
11 9am Jubilation Worship 10:15 am Congregational Breakfast 10:15 am Sunday School  	12 <i>Office Closed</i> 6pm Lions Club Mtg	13 1 pm Bible Study 5:30pm Food Pantry 	14 5 pm Confirmation Meal 5:30 pm Confirmation 6:15 pm Senior Choir 7 pm High School Youth 7:15 pm Resounding Joy!	15 6:30pm Church Council Meeting 	16 9:30am Food Pantry 	17 <i>Bishop Current Visit</i> 10:30am Private Event (FH) 5pm Worship in Sanctuary & Online 
18 <i>Bishop Current Visit</i> 9am Worship 10am Fellowship Hour 10:15 am Sunday School	19 <i>Office Closed</i> 6pm Lions Club Exec Mtg.	20 9:00 am Quilting Grp. 1 pm Bible Study 5:30 pm Churches United Meal @ Zion 5:30 pm Food Pantry 6:30 Jubilation	21 5 pm Confirmation Meal 5:30 pm Confirmation 6:15 pm Senior Choir 7 pm High School Youth 7:15 pm Resounding Joy!	22 	23 9:30am Food Pantry 	24 5pm Worship in Sanctuary & Online 
25 9 am Worship 10 am Fellowship Hour 10:15 am Sunday School 10:15 am Quarterly Usher Training & Counter Training 11:30 am Mutual Ministry	26 <i>Office Closed</i>	27 1 pm Bible Study 5:30pm Food Pantry 	28 5 pm Confirmation Meal 5:30 pm Confirmation 7 pm High School Youth NO CHOIR REHEARSALS	29  9am Ambassador Crew 5:15pm Tailgate & Parade 	30 9:30am Food Pantry 	

SOLES4 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 through September 5th. More information about this program can be found at soles4souls.org, or in the recent North Scott Press article.



CHURCHES UNITED MEAL Service Opportunity

Churches United is a partnership of Quad City area churches that help to feed the hungry. Our church is scheduled to serve September 20th, 5:45 pm at Zion Lutheran Church in Davenport. The Service in the World committee has planned the menu and welcomes help from the congregation. There will be a signup posted on the bulletin board in the Narthex with spots for donating food items, food preparation and serving the meal. Servers will need to be at Zion by 5:30 pm. Please consider signing up if you would like to help feed those in need.

North Scott Homecoming Parade Thursday, September 29th @ 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 29, 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!

Homecoming
Parade Tailgate



COMMUNITY BLOOD DRIVE

Faith Lutheran Church will be hosting a Blood Drive with the ImpactLife Blood Center. The need for blood increases during the summer months.

Please mark the calendar and consider donation.

Call Tom Carlson @ (319)231-0845 or
E-mail Tom at
Carlson.thomas@mchsi.com to set up an
appointment
Thank You!

Monday, October 24th
Time 3:00 pm—6:00 pm

**FAITH EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN
CHURCH**

500 W. LeClaire Rd, Eldridge, IA 52748
www.faithlutheraneldridge.com



OFFERING COUNTERS

OFFERING COUNTER TRAINING

We are looking for a few good people to help with counting the offering after each worship service. No experience necessary!

In September after each service, we will return to having two people count the money in the offering plates, make out a bank deposit slip and take the money to the night deposit box. For over the past two years, the offering has been counted by faithful volunteers. **A big thanks to Rita Smith, Rhonda Webber, Mary Ann Anderson and Carol Kuehl for taking on this task.**

A refresher/training session for all counters will be Sunday, September 25, 2022 at 10:15 AM. Grab a cookie and coffee after worship and join us to learn about this important job. Also there will be a sign-up sheet for the rest of 2022. Pick the dates that work for you!

If you are unable to attend this training, but would still like to be a counter, we will be happy to arrange for training on another day. Please call Rhonda Webber (319)230-1228 to serve, or with any questions about the Counter responsibilities and training, You may sign up for the scheduled training session at church, or by calling the office.

Thank you for serving!



North Scott Feed Our Children Ministry



Thank you to the dozens of volunteers that helped us serve **3,197** lunches to children in the North Scott community this summer. A special **thank you** to Katie and Sammie Garner for organizing and managing our daily operations this season!



Dear Sisters in Christ,

The Cluster 6 meeting will take place Saturday, Oct. 8, 2022, at St. James Lutheran Church in Bettendorf, starting at 9 AM with a light breakfast and ending at 11:30 AM.

We are planning to provide crocheted or knitted prayer squares for our five delegates from SEIA women's synod who are planning to attend the Triennial next fall in Phoenix, AZ. Ideally, we would like to have 250 prayer squares in total.

We will be collecting quilts for Lutheran World Relief (if you want to bring some), tying quilts at the workshop, and rolling bandages for Global Health. Many hands make light work! Hope you can join us.

Attendees should contact Linda Kortemeyer so we know what supplies are needed: Her contact information is: Korte4m3@gmail.com or 563-271-3309. Please let Linda know if you are interested in crocheting or knitting, as we will provide hooks and needles as needed, preferably size F hook for crocheting.

We can provide a light weight baby or sports yarn; or if you have some yarn, you can bring your own. The same is true for the crochet hooks or knitting needles. Doris Mack will help teach the pattern for these crochet squares, and we plan to have someone for the knitting as well. Hopefully, once you have the instructions, more squares can be completed after the work day to be collected at our spring meeting.

We really need to have people RSVP by the end of September so we can provide the needed supplies. We need to know if you want to learn how to crochet, already crochet, want to learn how to knit, or have supplies available to share.

We will plan to collect hygiene items for St. James Food Pantry and cash donations are also appreciated for supporting our cluster, synod, and the food pantry.

Take care, and prayers for everyone's health,

Cindee Schnekloth, Cluster 6 coordinator
563-320-7107



With Appreciation...

Thank you to our August Ambassador Folding Crew: Carol Marten, Tom Bauer, Carol Strobbe, Mary Moore, Donna Benskin, and Nancy Germain.



New Address & Contact Info Updates

We want to keep in touch with those who have recently moved and those recently graduated. Please send us updated addresses, email addresses and phone numbers for those who have moved in 2022, as well as those who recently headed off to new education, training or career opportunities. Please send info to faitheldridge@netins.net, or call 285-4501.

PRAYER HEART MINISTRY

You will seek Me and find Me when you search for Me with all your heart. I will be found by you. ~ Jeremiah 29: 13-14

If you, a family member, friend, neighbor, or stranger are needing some extra reminders of Jesus and his love; please feel free to take and/share some "prayer hearts" that can be found in the heart decorated basket in the back of church. Each heart is decorated with love, includes a prayer and can be taken anywhere you go. Take one for yourself and one for someone in need of feeling God's love, grace and comfort. Please share your time with me in reading the prayer sent with each special heart:

"Prayer Heart"

Handmade with Love

Within each grain of wood is a prayer, for comfort, encouragement, love and care. When you feel heartache, loneliness or pain this heart is your link in a prayer chain. Reach for me in your pocket, book, car or bag to know that you are not alone or afar. Lay this softly in your palm, feel God's grace, Christ's love and Spirit's calm. Lift your cares and joys in prayer, knowing God is with you EVERYWHERE.

We are all the hands and feet of Christ and his love is too good not to share. Thank you for sharing that love with others through this ministry.



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

Ruth Staudt	September 9	Christine Copley	September 23
Sally Hamann	September 9	Mary Flenker	September 24
Kenny Oetzmann	September 12	Judi Hamann	September 25
Donna Benskin	September 12	Carol Kuehl	September 26
Tom Andresen	September 14	Teri Wittkowski	September 26
Val Zelinko	September 20	Doug Paulsen	September 29
Barbara Weltzin	September 22	Diana Doss	September 30
Lorenz Behrens	September 23		



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



Food Panty Needs

Food Pantry Needs for the month of September are pasta, peanut butter, jelly and cooking oil.

MISSIONARY SPONSORSHIP



THANK YOU to **Tom & Pam Carlson** for sponsoring the **Bencke Family**, and to **John & Keri Suiter** for sponsoring **John Chima** and **Denisse Grefa** in September. The cost for sponsorship is \$40/month each for our Compassion Children John and Denisse 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. *Thank you for your support!*

Please Join Us For Weekly Worship: Saturday @ 5:00 pm In Person & Live Stream Online, and Sunday at 9:00 am In Person. Fellowship Hour is at 10am Sunday. Sunday School for children and adults is at 10:15 am, starting September 11th. Updates: [www. faithlutheraneldridge.com](http://www.faithlutheraneldridge.com), and on our Facebook page.

Faith Lutheran Church

500 W. LeClaire Road
Eldridge, IA 52748

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

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

