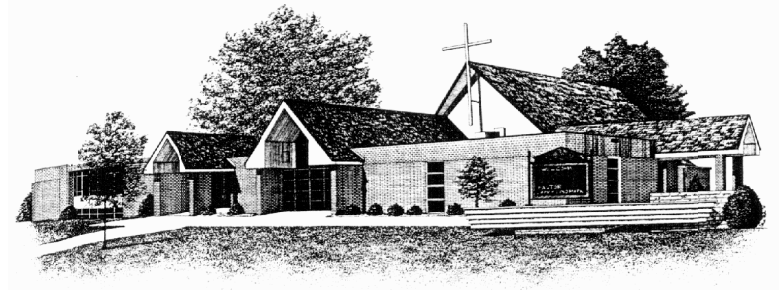


Faith Lutheran Church



AMBASSADOR

October 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 we have already reached the month of October. School is in full swing. The temperatures have begun to take their downward turn. The harvest is beginning all around us. The signs that we are reaching the end of the year are becoming clear.

October also has been the time in the church when we traditionally consider the spiritual practice of stewardship. As the harvest comes in, and we are giving thanks to God for all of the gifts that God continues to provide for us, it is a good time to consider how it is that God is calling us to use our unique gifts together to continue to proclaim the good news of God in Jesus Christ through the Holy Spirit within our congregation, the wider community, even around the world.

Therefore, during the first four weeks of October, I will be focusing my preaching around the theme, "Go Tell the World: 4 Traits of a Life of Stewardship." I will be making use of resources that have been provided from the Southeastern Iowa Synod, ELCA, and adapting those for our congregation as we consider the lectionary texts that are assigned for these first four weeks of October and the promises made in the rite of Affirmation of Baptism.

When we are confirmed or join this congregation, there are questions asked of each of us and of us as a congregation. These questions and responses are as follows:

Do you intend to continue in the covenant God made with you in holy baptism: to live among God's faithful people, to hear the word of God and share in the Lord's supper, to proclaim the good news of God in Christ through word and deed, to serve all people, following the example of Jesus, and to strive for justice and peace in all the earth?

I do, and I ask God to help and guide me.

People of God, do you promise to support these sisters and brothers and pray for them in their life in Christ?

We do, and we ask God to help and guide us.

- from the rite of Affirmation of Baptism, ELW p. 236

From the waters of the font, children of God live in covenant with God and community. While the word 'stewardship' never once appears in

the baptismal promises, altogether these promises sum up what it is to be a steward: one who uses wisely the gifts God has given. It takes good stewardship to worship, proclaim, and do good works of service, justice and peacemaking on a daily basis for the duration of a life of faith, for there certainly is so much to be done. Without stewardship, it could be that gifts are squandered, go unused to share God's love with the world, are used and abused, or are spent so that the gift becomes a burden. But, as this rite reminds us, stewardship is not solely an individual endeavor. It also happens in community as the body of Christ builds one another up in truth and spurs one another toward love and good deeds.

Often, when we think of Stewardship, our minds turn directly to financial stewardship, and some of us get a little squeamish. We do not like to talk about money in worship. We do not want to be asked to give more. The truth is, Faith's financial situation is not strong at the moment. At the end of August, our expenses have outpaced our income by nearly \$20,000. We have returned to full programming at the pace of 2019, and expenses have increased in those years for the church just as they have in all of our lives. I assure you that the Congregation Council and Ministry Teams have been careful in their spending, and still, we find ourselves behind. If you are behind in your intended giving for this year or you have some extra to give toward God's ministry in this place, your giving would be a blessing to the people gathered here and to all whom we reach around the world.

Yet, while this is the reality for our congregation at this time, our focus on stewardship will not be solely, not even primarily, centered on financial stewardship. Instead, in these first four weeks of October, we will catch a glimpse of what it takes to steward a whole life of faith by examining four aspects of discipleship as it relates to life, money and community. We will explore faith, gratitude, persistence, and humility, all while naming and claiming the baptismal call to tell the world of God's love in Jesus Christ.

My prayer is that this will be just the beginning of the conversation about how we, as individuals and community can better steward the gifts God has entrusted to us. I believe that we have all we need to live into God's mission and to proclaim the good news of God's love to our neighbors and the world, and we steward those gifts with faith, gratitude, persistence and humility so that more people may come to know and be transformed by God's saving love.

As you enjoy the changes that fall brings, I invite you to join us for these conversations as we grow together in our practice of stewardship.

In Christ's love,
Pastor Carrie

Church COUNCIL

Rally day has come and gone. Fellowship Hall was full of conversation and fellowship along with a breakfast enjoyed by all. Sunday school is up and running at 10:15 each Sunday. Adult education has resumed at the same time, and there are many other opportunities to help either within the walls of our building or in the community we share. I thank God for the excitement, passion and faith that is happening in this congregation. Shine your light and find out that you may be recharged by doing so.

Join me in thanking:

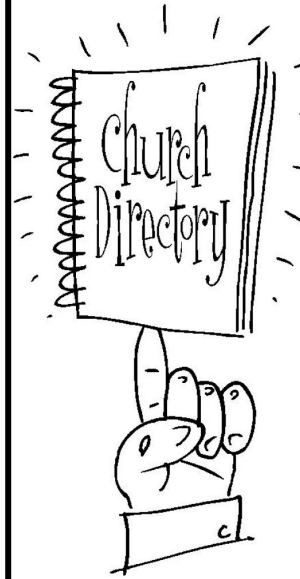
- Those who will be teaching Sunday School this year: Betty Strom, Amanda Strom, Marla Zabel, Theresa White, and Tracy Lindaman. Without these volunteers, Sunday School would not be possible.
- All those who helped prepare, serve, and clean up after the Rally Day breakfast: Sherry Brundies, Mike Strom, Ryan Strom, Sue and Matt Kirst, Theresa White, and Gracie who helped make sure the crumbs were off of the floor.

A brief council meeting was held on September 15th. The Service in the World team received commitments from the Youth group and Worship and Music to help prepare and serve the Churches United Meal in the future. If you wish to help make some meals for this mission, watch for the sign up in November, or contact a Service in the World Team member for more details. Council also decided on the health plans offered to the pastors for the coming year.

Mike Garner, Council President
563-349-4459

GRATEFUL
Thankful
& BLESSED

THE CHURCH DIRECTORY AT YOUR FINGERTIPS!



The church database (called ICON) has a phone app that allows church members to

- Browse the online church directory.
- See and edit/update your personal information.
- Review your contributions history and print a statement.

Have access to the most current information at your fingertips.

You need to be 'invited' to create an account to access this information. The church office will send an email invite on October 4 with a link to set up your account. Simply follow the instructions to get started.

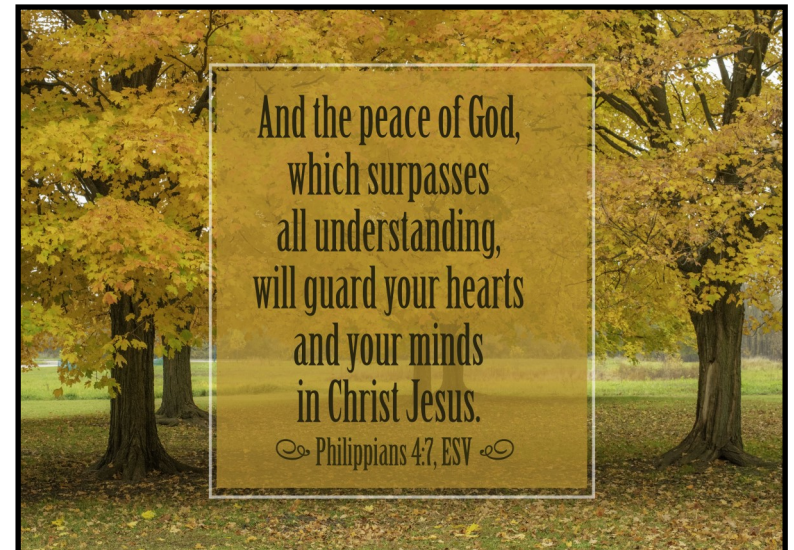


Be sure to download the IconCMO app in the Google Play Store or the iOS Play Store. Once the app is downloaded, you can log in using the credentials you received from the church email.

Didn't get the invite? Do we have your email address? Please email the church office at faitheldridge@netins.net to be sure we have your most current information.



Join us October 2 at 11:15 am for a simple meal and conversations to help us get to know each other. If you plan on attending, please call or email the office. New Member Welcome will be during the worship services on the weekend of **October 8th & 9th**.



YOUTH GROUP News

High School Youth Group Mission Trip to Albuquerque, New Mexico

After much deliberation, the High School Youth Group has decided that Mission Trip 2023 will be to Albuquerque, New Mexico. We will be going with Service Learning Camps again this year, and we are looking forward to working with them again. The trip will be July 22-29, 2023.

Any youth who are in 8th – 12th grade are welcome to join us on this adventure. If you are planning to go, please return the registration form and the \$150 deposit to Pastor Carrie by October 15. If you need paperwork, please contact Pastor Carrie, and she will get the paperwork to you. Remember, friends are welcome to join us on the trip as long as they are willing to participate in the fundraising efforts.

We will also need adult chaperones for this trip. If you are interested in joining us as a chaperone, please let Pastor Carrie know. Once we know how many youth are going, she will determine how many adults she will need.

We look forward to all that this adventure will bring!

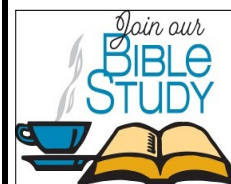
Confirmation Conversations

The new year of Confirmation Conversations has begun, and we are studying the Old Testament. Many great questions are being asked as we explore the stories of our oldest ancestors. We are also having a lot of fun along the way!



Sunday Morning Adult Education in October

You are invited to join us for our Sunday Mornings at 10:15 for Adult Education. During the month of October, we are going to spend the education time to talk more about the stewardship theme from worship that morning. We will consider how we can be better stewards of the gifts of God as we explore in more depth the four traits of a life of stewardship: faith, gratitude, persistence and humility. We also will discuss options for the next study. We hope that you will join us for these conversations around stewardship.

















Tuesday Afternoon Bible Study

Join us on each Tuesday afternoon for a Bible study that looks at the lectionary texts for the week. Tuesday afternoons at 1 pm.

JH & HS Fellowship Event—Pride of the Wapsi

On Sunday, October 23, the Junior high & high School youth are invited for an afternoon at Pride of the Wapsi. We will meet at church at 11:30. Please bring \$25 for admission and a Wapsi Card that you can use for food, pumpkins and more. (You can bring additional money if you want additional items.) Please let Pastor Carrie know if you plan to attend by Wednesday, October 19th. If you are a parent who is willing to chaperone, please let Pastor Carrie know.



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
						1 5 pm Worship in Sanctuary & Online 
2 9 am Worship 10 am Fellowship Hour 10:15 am Sunday School 11:15 am New Member Lunch & Conversations 1 pm Private Event (FH)	3 <i>Office Closed</i> 6pm Lions Club Mtg	4 1 pm Bible Study 5:30 pm Food Pantry  6:30 pm VFW (FH) 6:30 pm Jubilation	5 5 pm Confirmation Meal 5:30 pm Confirmation 6:15 pm People of Praise 7 pm High School Youth 7:15 pm Resounding Joy!	6 6:30 pm Team Night	7 9:30 am Food Pantry 	8 5 pm Jubilation Worship in Sanctuary & Online 
9 9 am Jubilation Worship 10 am Fellowship Hour 10:15 am Sunday School	10 <i>Office Closed</i> 6pm Lions Club Exec Mtg.	11 1 pm Bible Study 5:30 pm Food Pantry 	12 <i>Confirmation Mentor Night</i> 6:15 pm People of Praise 7 pm High School Youth 7:15 pm Resounding Joy!	13 <i>Team Reports Due</i> 6:30 pm Executive Committee Meeting	14 9:30 am Food Pantry 	15 5 pm Worship in Sanctuary & Online 
16 9 am Worship 10 am Fellowship Hour 10:15 am Sunday School	17 <i>Office Closed</i>	18 9:00 am Quilting Grp. 1 pm Bible Study 5:30 pm Food Pantry	19 5 pm Confirmation Meal 5:30 pm Confirmation 6:15 pm People of Praise 7 pm High School Youth 7:15 pm Resounding Joy!	20 6:30 pm Church Council Meeting 	21 9:30 am Food Pantry  	22 5 pm Worship in Sanctuary & Online 
23 9 am Worship 10 am Fellowship Hour 10:15 am Sunday School 11:30am Pride of the Wapsi	24 <i>Office Closed</i> 3 pm -6 pm Blood Drive	25 1 pm Bible Study 5:30 pm Food Pantry 	26 5 pm Confirmation Meal 5:30 pm Confirmation 6:15 pm People of Praise 7 pm High School Youth 7:15 pm Resounding Joy!	27 9 am Ambassador Crew 	28 9:30am Food Pantry 	29
30 9 am Worship 10 am Fellowship Hour 10:15 am Sunday School	31 <i>Office Closed</i> 5:30 pm—7:30 pm Trunk or Treat					

TRUNK OR TREAT

On Halloween, Monday, October 31, from 5:30 to 7:30 pm, we will host a Trunk-or-Treat in the church parking lot. We invite anyone in the congregation to decorate the back of their car and hand out treats (self supplied) to the kids who are trick-or-treating. Please sign up on the bulletin board in the Gathering Space or online here: <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/70A0D4BAFAA28A3FE3-faith>.

Please use the invitation/flyer on page 11 to invite your friends and family to attend.

Thank you in advance for making this night special for the children in our neighborhood.



Solve this cryptogram to complete Isaiah 40:8, a Bible verse that speaks to the autumn season.

A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	I	J	K	L	M	N	O	P	Q	R	S	T	U	V	W	X	Y	Z
														1				22							
13	12	7				6	20	16	22	22				26	11	13	12	7	20	22			13	12	7
2	5	1	26	7	20				2	16	18	7	22			25	15	13				13	12	7	
26	1	20	18			1	2									6	1	18				26	11	5	5
22	13	16	24	18																					

ISAIAH 40:8



JOIN US FOR OUR TRUNK OR TREAT!

Monday, October 31st
5:30 PM - 7:30 PM

Faith Evangelical Lutheran Church

500 W. Le Claire Rd | Eldridge, Iowa 52748 | 563-285-4501 | faithlutheraneldridge.com



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



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 September Ambassador Folding Crew: Donna Benskin, Sue Casel, Tom Bauer, Carol Strobbe, and Sue Braack.



Almost **1,200 pairs** of shoes were collected by the Eldridge Lions Club and sent to Soles for Soles! **Thank you** to all who donated and to the Eldridge Lions Club for leading our community in this worthwhile ministry project!

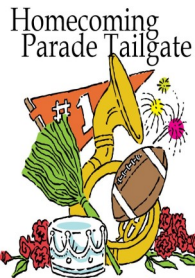


THANK YOU!

Our church served the meal for Churches United on September 20th, at Zion Lutheran Church in Davenport. **113 Meals** were served! **Thank you** to all who donated food, and helped prepare, load, transport, and serve the meal. The next time Faith serves is **November 15th**. Please watch for the sign up if you would like to help feed those in need.

North Scott Homecoming Tailgate

The North Scott Clergy Group hosted a Tailgate Party at Faith Lutheran Church on Thursday, September 29, on our front lawn, before the North Scott Homecoming Parade. Thank you to all who assisted the NS Clergy with this project. It was exciting to see so many people enjoying food, fellowship and fun in this place while watching our friends and family in the parade. Pictures from the parade and tailgate will appear online and in a future Ambassador.



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

Ruth Jurgens	October 2	Connie Rohwer	October 16
Dorothy Kuhl	October 2	Geri McLaughlin	October 22
Don Stoltenberg	October 2	Dennis Kelly	October 22
Henry Storjohann	October 3	Ruth Heuer	October 23
Magda Brodersen	October 10	Delores Rathjen	October 26
Judy Koehler	October 11	Jean Hanson	October 28
Rob White	October 15	Lu Wiese	October 29



Sharie & Doug Garner October 3, 1964
Dottie & Bud House October 8, 1950



During the Saturday, September 24th worship service, we welcomed to our Faith family through the waters of holy baptism, Sutton Douglas Cosgrove, the son of Kendal and Jordan Cosgrove. Sutton's sponsors are Taylor Herberg and Kara Cosgrove.



Food Panty Needs

Food Pantry Needs for the month of October are boxes of instant potatoes, stuffing mix, and gravy.

MISSIONARY SPONSORSHIP

THANK YOU to the **La Plante Family** for sponsoring the **Bencke Family**, and to **Nina Looney** for sponsoring **John Chima in October**. **We are looking for a sponsor for Denisse Grefa for October**. 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.
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

