



Faith Family News

November 2025

*In response to God's grace flowing
through Christ, we grow in faith
and show Christ's love.*

Priesthood of All Believers

By Pastor Adam

Over the last couple of months, I've so enjoyed the journey we've been on in our Sunday morning scripture. The Narrative Lectionary leads us through the story of God's promise and presence among God's people. This year, I feel like the readings have been preparing us for a particular need I have right now. I'll share more, first about the preparation, then about the need.

These last few Sundays have reminded us that God calls us. God calls us when we feel unqualified... like Moses. God calls us when we have a hard time recognizing God's voice... like Samuel. God provides people to help us with our call... like Aaron. God provides people who encourage us to listen... like Eli. And in every story, at every turn, every step of the way, God promises to be with us!

Martin Luther had a special term for this, "The Priesthood of All Believers." Priests and pastors are people set apart by God with a vocation of ministry, but what troubled Luther was that people thought priests were the ONLY people set apart by God with a vocation of ministry. Luther was adamant that the vocation of ministry was not reserved for ordained clergy alone, but for ALL people of God. Each of us has been uniquely gifted and called to serve God and our neighbors in particular ways. Where does this call come from? Holy Baptism! Luther said that in the waters of baptism, God calls, claims, and sends us out as the Priesthood of All Believers, fully equipped and empowered to live out our vocations of ministry.

Now... the need. I need your help. I need you to consider how God might be calling you to use your gifts in ministry, not just in your own walk of life, but here at

Faith. I'm in a situation with my family where I can't give all that I want to give or have been giving to our ministry at Faith. With the return of Marilyn's cancer, I'm needed more at home to be present with my family, and on the road as we travel to treatments and search for a new specialist. I've shared this with the Church Council and have their full support and blessing, encouraging me to establish some expectations during this time.

During this time of family need, I am committed to preaching and presiding at worship as much as possible, providing pastoral care through phone calls and visits, and being available in the office during scheduled times to collaborate with staff and be available for visits.

Here is what I am asking of you, the Priesthood of All Believers:

- Helping to visit and commune our homebound.
- Nurturing discipleship by leading adult discussions after worship.
- Ministering to our elementary aged children by helping with Bible Boot Camp.
- Ministering to our youth by joining discussions after worship.
- Building relationships with our youth by coming to confirmation nights.
- Serving on an Evangelism Team that visits and follows up with our visitors and new members.
- Serve on our Outreach Core Team to identify and promote outreach opportunities.
- Serve on our Discipleship Core Team to identify and promote discipleship and education opportunities.
- Serve on our Worship Core Team to help oversee and assure vibrant worship.

These are some specific ways you can serve, but if you think of others, talk to one of our Council members and see how you can get started. *(continued on next page)*

Flows. Grows. Shows



Faith Family Updates

What's new around Faith? Maybe you haven't been here in awhile or you just haven't noticed, but our ministry is constantly changing.

CHRISTIAN KARAOKE NIGHT

Warm up your vocal cords, practice your favorite hymn, gospel, praise, Christian song—it's time for another Christian Karaoke night at Faith! Mark your calendars for **Wednesday, November 5 at 6:30 pm** and get ready for a fun night of sharing and singing. Invite your friends to join the fun. Kids are welcome, too. We'll gather in the Great Room, and all the technology will be set up and ready to go. Don't want to sing? That's okay! Our singers will still need an audience, so come out to support your Faith Family.

CHILDREN'S CHRISTMAS PROGRAM

This year we are going to celebrate the Christmas season with a simple and short Nativity play using kids ages 3-12 as the actors. If you have not signed your child up to participate, please do. This will be a fun and positive experience for them. The sign-up sheet is at the Coffee Sales counter in the Gathering Area. There will be 2 practices — Nov. 23 and 30 at 9:00am before church begins. We will present the Nativity on December 7 during the 9:30am service. If you have any questions, please contact Melissa Street, Liddy Stark, or Pam Devlin.

FALL FEST FUN!

A big THANK YOU to all who helped make our Fall Fest a success! We served over 200 people at our meal, trunk-or-treated with countless kids, and heard squeals of joy from the bounce house. It was a great outreach to our community and opened doors for more to come. More pictures posted on Facebook.



ADVENT ALLEGRO

LUNCHTIME CONCERTS

We have a great lineup for this year's Advent Allegro concert series.

December 3: JHS Madrigal Singers

December 10: Matthew Nall on piano

December 17: IC Percussion Ensemble

The brief concerts will last approximately 30 minutes and begin at 12:15pm. Lunch of soup, chips, fruit, and dessert will be served beginning at 11:30am and after the concert for \$5.

We could use some help with serving the meal and providing cookies and soup. If you would like to pitch in, contact the church office (245-8919 or faithlutheran62650@frontier.com) or **sign up on the sheet on the counter by the coffee sales.**

Pastor Adam's article continued:

Thank you for letting me say, "I need you." And when I say "I," I really mean "the church." The church needs all of us to listen for God's call and be the Priesthood of All Believers that God has called us to be. *Pastor Adam*

In the next week or two, a specific list of opportunities to serve along with a signup sheet will be distributed in worship. Please prayerfully consider how God might be calling you.

Reaching Up... Connecting with God through Worship

Flows. Grows. Shows



FIRST SUNDAY WORSHIP SCHEDULE

Our summer worship schedule was a hit, and we will continue having 9:30am contemporary and 11:00am traditional worship on the first Sunday of each month.

All Saints Sunday November 2

On November 2, we will be celebrating All Saints Sunday, an opportunity to remember all the saints of God, specifically recalling members and loved ones of members of our congregation who have died or were baptized in the last year. If you would like the name of your loved one shared, please submit it to the church office **by Friday, October 31.**

Youth Led Worship November 9

We are blessed with faithful and gifted youth in our congregation and celebrate that they are not the church of the future... they are the church today! We welcome our youth to lead our worship, from musicians to readers to preachers. Our lectionary reading is the story of God appearing to Elijah in the unexpected stillness on the mountain. Adam Krohe will preach, sharing with us how he experiences God in another unexpected way, honeybees.

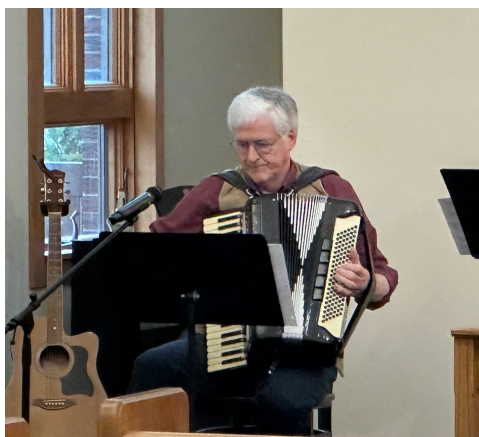
SERMONS IN NOVEMBER... "CALL OF THE PROPHETS"

In November, the Narrative Lectionary turns to the prophets of the Old Testament. A prophet is literally a mouthpiece for God, speaking truth to power, calling for repentance, and proclaiming hope. We will hear from four prophets this month as their voices echo through the eons, speaking to every generation.

- ♦ November 9, Elijah encounters God in the still silence of the wind. Adam Krohe will be our youth preacher, opening our eyes to encounter God in unlikely places.
- ♦ November 16, Amos speaks condemning words from God, calling out the people for their empty offerings and demanding justice.
- ♦ November 23, Ezekiel speaks not only of the word of God, but the breath of God that brings a valley of dry bones to life. These are words of promise for the Israelites in exile and for us in our wanderings.
- ♦ November 30, Jeremiah preaches more words of hope to the exiles in Babylon. God has not forgotten them and has a promise for their future, a promise for us all.

"ROLL OUT THE BARREL"... AN AFTERNOON OF POLKA AND PRAISE

We had a lively worship service at our Fall Festival polka service! Many thanks to our musicians and the many others who helped make the whole day a success! If you missed it, find the service on Facebook and YouTube.



Flows. Grows. Shows



Reaching In... Connecting through Discipleship

MEN'S BREAKFAST

Come and connect with the men as we share our faith and enjoy good food on **Saturday, November 1!** At 8:00, we hang out in the kitchen, helping to cook, drink coffee, and visit. At 9:00, we sit down for conversation and discussion on a specific topic.

DISCIPLESHIP GROUP

Join us for the Discipleship Group meeting at **10:00am on Wednesday, November 19**, in the Faith Library as we meet for Bible study, discussion, and fellowship. We have a lot of fun with lively discussions. Let's grow together in compassion, connection, and purpose.

BIG MONTH FOR YOUTH...

Our youth have a lot going on this month with confirmation/youth nights on **November 2, 16, and 30**. We'll join the Boot Camp crew for a meal at 5:30 and have our event from 6:00-7:30pm. Remember our youth led worship on November 9 and our Carlinville Retreat on November 21-23 with the youth from across the synod.

... AND BIBLE BOOT CAMP TOO!

It will be a big month for Bible Boot Camp with three events in November. We are looking for helpers at each one to lead an activity/craft or provide a meal for approximately 20. We will meet on **Sundays, November 2, 16, and 30 from 4:30-6:00pm**. Contact Pastor Adam for more information and sign up to help.

LET YOUR LIGHT SHINE!!! Our youth carved pumpkins in October, reflecting on the darkness of our lives and the power of the light of Christ to overcome it.



FAITH'S LITTLE FLOCK

(Ages 2-7) gathers during worship right after the Children's Sermon and returns to the sanctuary in time for Communion.

In November, Faith's Little Flock will explore stories about Elijah, and messages of justice, light, and hope from the prophets Amos, Isaiah, and Jeremiah. Through engaging activities, the children will experience the themes by learning, living, and singing them. We will also be practicing songs for Christmas!

Faith's Little Flock warmly welcomes—and deeply appreciates—our adult and older youth volunteers. If you're interested in spending time with the children during part of the Sunday worship service or joining the teacher rotation for Faith's Little Flock, please reach out to Melissa Street, Liddy Stark, or Pam Devlin.

Blessings, *Melissa*

Reaching Out... Connecting through Outreach

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JACKSONVILLE FOOD CENTER

A few weeks ago, Lillian Korous decided to step down as a liaison for Faith Lutheran Church with the Jacksonville Food Center. She served our Faith Family so well with her devoted volunteer work at the Food Center. I had told Lillian that I would help Pat Glyshaw going forward and knew I would have big shoes to fill. Lillian passed away peacefully, and we are very grateful for her service — she will be missed.

The Jacksonville Food Center continues to provide much-needed services in our local community. In September, the Food Center provided food boxes for 608 families or 1,292 people. Additionally, the Food Center provides fruit, vegetables, and other perishable items to those in need of assistance.

In September, our Faith Family donated \$290 to the Food Center. Our Faith Family also donated 7 lbs. of food worth \$35, which Pat delivered to the Center on October 6th. Donations of non-perishable food items are always welcome, and Pat and I are more than willing to deliver any items to the Food Center.

Pat Glyshaw and Barb Davenport

FRIENDS FROM FAITH

A ministry team led by Naomi Hahn: on the last Sunday of each month — everyone is welcome to send a greeting card. **On November 30**, visit the tall white table just outside the sanctuary where you can select a card, sign a card, or deposit a card in the mailbox to send. Cards and stamps are provided for your use. If you have extra cards or stamps to spare, please bring them and donate them in the provided jar.

NEW DIRECTIONS MEAL TRAIN

The New Directions homeless shelter is looking for volunteers to provide meals for their residents. There are typically 5-12 residents each night, but they ask that you call ahead to confirm the headcount for the day. Meals can be dropped off between 5:30-6:00pm, and you are welcome to stay and eat. For more information, visit “New Directions Jacksonville, IL” on Facebook.

JACC FALL ASSEMBLY ON HOMELESSNESS

The number of people experiencing homelessness in Jacksonville has been on the rise in recent years, and many of us are more in danger of becoming unhoused than we may think. The Jacksonville Area Conference of Churches will be hosting a panel discussion of community leaders and our unhoused neighbors to help us better appreciate the experience of homelessness, hear what organizations are doing in our community, and learn how we can help. The event will be held at Spirit of Faith Center, 105 E. Dunlap, Jacksonville, IL 62650 with a Chili and cornbread meal on the evening of **Wednesday, November 12, at 5:30pm**. With November as National Homeless Awareness Month, stay tuned for more ways we will work together to care for our neighbors.

NEW FOOD CENTER REPRESENTATIVE

After many years of service, Lillian Korous stepped down as Faith's liaison to the Jacksonville Food Center, and Barb Davenport has taken her place — thanks also to Pat Glyshaw for her assistance!

THANK YOU FOR YOUR LOCAL NEEDS DONATIONS

When you designate a portion of your offering to go to local needs, much of that money goes to support two organizations. St. Vincent de Paul, run by Our Saviour Catholic Church, responds quickly to people in our community who need immediate financial assistance. Unmet Needs is an ecumenical partnership between Jacksonville Churches and the Salvation Army. They coordinate assistance from other agencies and fill in the gap with financial donations from our community.

*Thank you for your support and help
for our neighbors in need!*

Worship Assistants

Chancel Committee

Nov. 2 Pat Glyshaw
 Nov. 9 Mary Jane Esslinger
 Nov. 16 Kris Roth
 Nov. 23 **need volunteer**
 Nov. 30 **need volunteer**

Coffee Hosts

Nov. 2 Karen Sibert (9:30am)
 Nov. 2 Judy D. + Vicki R. (11am)
 Nov. 9 **need volunteer**
 Nov. 16 Terri K. & Mindy C.
 Nov. 23 **need volunteer**
 Nov. 30 **need volunteer**

Communion Assts.

Nov. 2 Barb Davenport (9:30am)
 Nov. 2 Kay Schnitker (11am)
 Nov. 9 Barb Davenport
 Nov. 16 Karen Sibert
 Nov. 23 Barb Davenport
 Nov. 30 Kay Schnitker

Greeters

Nov. 2 Lynette Hamilton (9:30am)
 Nov. 2 **need volunteer** (11am)
 Nov. 9 Vicki Robson
 Nov. 16 Lynette Hamilton
 Nov. 23 Barb Fishback
 Nov. 30 **need volunteer**

Readers

Nov. 2 Patty Nelson (9:30am)
 Nov. 2 Patty Nelson (11am)
 Nov. 9 Monica Proefrock
 Nov. 16 Carol Kilver
 Nov. 23 John Williams
 Nov. 30 Terri Kimler

Ushers

Nov. 2 Pat Glyshaw (9:30am)
 Nov. 2 **need volunteer** (11am)
 Nov. 9 Judy Dillard
 Nov. 16 Larry Kuster
 Nov. 23 **need volunteer**
 Nov. 30 **need volunteer**

If you would like to help with assisting for the 9:30am worship services, please **sign up in the gathering area** at the podium by the east doors or contact the church office (faithlutheran62650@frontier.com).

Financial Assistants

Altar Plants

(\$15 donation appreciated)

If you would like to donate,
 please call or email the church office (245-8919
 or faithlutheran62650@frontier.com) or **sign up in the
 gathering area at the podium by the east doors;**
 please make checks payable to
 Faith Lutheran Church (1385 W. Walnut St.).

Nov. 2 **Open for donation**
 & **Open for donation**

Nov. 9 **Open for donation**
 & **Open for donation**

Nov. 16 **Open for donation**
 & **Open for donation**

Nov. 23 By Lynette Hamilton in celebration of
 Shanon & Dan Keller's Anniversary 11/27
 & **Open for donation**

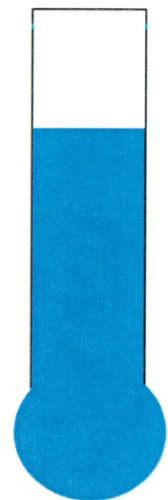
Nov. 30 **Open for donation**
 & **Open for donation**

Nov. 2 Kay Schnitker & to be determined
 Nov. 9 Patty Nelson & Monica Proefrock
 Nov. 16 Mindy Carlson & Ken Devlin
 Nov. 23 Greg Kimler & Monica Proefrock
 Nov. 30 Kelly Hartz & Kay Schnitker

Stewardship Snapshot...

Giving Thermometer

Through September,
 we have received \$188,258
 of our annual budget
 of \$264,796, or 71%.



Newsletter Deadline

November 16

The goal of stewardship ministry is to help God's people grow in their relationship with Jesus through the use of the time, talents, and finances God has entrusted to them.