



# Faith Family

## News

July 2023

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

### ~~I'm Perfect~~... Imperfect

- Pastor Adam

It's a lesson we all need to learn. It may take longer for some than others. Some learn it gently... others with a crash. We all need to replace "I'm Perfect" with "Imperfect."

This is the title of a book I've been reading, "The Imperfect Pastor: discovering joy in our limitations through a daily discipleship with Jesus" by Zach Eswine. Wait, did that say JOY in limitations? Yep! We all need to stop chasing after perfection (or pretending we are perfect) and embrace who we are, imperfections and all.

I haven't read the entire book yet (hey... I'm not perfect!), but here are some key points I've picked up along the way.

1. Be present. God has given you a place to inhabit, things to do there, and people to love. Attending to your work is attending to God's work among the faces and places. No matter how simple it may seem, it is significant!
2. Ways teach us. We learn more from what we observe in those around us than from what we are taught by a teacher, so we always bring our "home" with us. Be mindful of the ways you learned from others in your past and also the ways you are teaching others who observe you now.
3. Most of the time, you're invisible. God's work

through you is most often done in the simple and unnoticed conversations, interactions, and time alone. Life may often seem mundane, uncontrollable, and unfinished, but it is the field God has given us to cultivate, sow seed, and harvest for the Lord.

4. You can't be everywhere for everyone. Decide where you need to be and be there for those you love and who need you.



Now, this may be a book written to gently help pastors discover that they aren't perfect, but it has wisdom for us all. We begin a new sermon series this month on "The Good Life" by reading portions of the wisdom literature in the Bible (Proverbs, Ecclesiastes, Song of Solomon). What we need to remember... something that is so counter-cultural today is that we can't be perfect and we shouldn't pretend to be perfect. The good life is lived

fully aware of our imperfections and fully leaning on God.

I pray that our time reflecting on keeping sabbath was a good start to the summer. Now, give yourself grace. Learn from Jesus. Be present. Be mindful of the ways you teach and learn. Make the most of your invisible time. And be fully present with those in front of you. We are imperfect, and our limitations can actually be a source of joy as we follow Jesus together.

Blessings from your imperfect pastor,  
Pastor Adam

# 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.

## Sacrament of Holy Baptism

God's mighty waters of grace flowed in June as we celebrated the baptism of **Lukas Andrew Routh**. Lukas' parents are Dan and Kristina Routh; and his godparents are Krystal Johnson and Jody Mooneyham.

On July 16, God's waters flow again as we celebrate the baptism of **Ronan James Street**, son of Cole and Megan Street.

Holy Baptism is a sacrament in the Lutheran church, boldly proclaiming our identity as children of God and calling us into community to live and love as the Body of Christ.



## Recent Deaths of Wes Driver and Ethel Van Hying

Two of our beloved saints entered the church triumphant last month and have left the struggles of their earthly lives behind. Hold the families and friends of Wes and Ethel in your prayers.

**Clyde "Wes" Driver** died on June 8. Wes was the son of Maurice and Helen Driver, charter members of Faith Lutheran.



**Ethel Van Hying** died on June 27. Ethel worked with Elm City and has been a bright light of Christ in our congregation for years. She loved to share Jesus with everyone through her pictures, hugs, and singing "Jesus Loves Me."

## Bishop John's Retirement Dinner

**Saturday, July 15, 5:00-7:30pm**

As you may know, Bishop John Roth will be retiring at the close of his term as bishop on August 31, 2023. You are invited to a Retirement Dinner in his honor on Saturday, July 15, 5:00-7:30pm at Erin's Pavilion, Southwind Park, in Springfield. Tickets are \$30 each, and **reservations can be made at [csis-elca.org/retirement](https://csis-elca.org/retirement) BY JULY 1**. Additional donations toward the cost of the dinner are being accepted and can be included when you make your reservation. Any donations beyond the expenses of the dinner will support our companion synods in the Malagasy Lutheran Church in Madagascar.

## We celebrate our graduates!

We give thanks to God for the accomplishments of our JHS graduates, Kellen Leifheit, Owen Spray, and Will Weger.

# *Living Our Mission... Vibrant Worship*

Worship is central to who we are and what we do together as the Body of Christ. Learn about wonderful opportunities for worship together, come join us, and bring a friend!



## **Outdoor Worship and Picnic July 2**

Our outdoor worship services continue on July 2, August 6, and September 3. To assure all can participate, there will be seating and communion stations on the grass, on the parking lot, and indoors (with worship visible through windows), as well as being live streamed. Following the service, we are having a cookout picnic. Invite a friend and join us for these wonderful times together!

## **Pentecost and Confirmation**

On Pentecost Sunday, May 28, we celebrated with Adam Krohe, Josie Rajaguru, and Kellon Oldenettel for their Rite of Confirmation. Together we affirmed our baptisms and recommitted our lives to the work of Christ's church as we share the gospel and support one another. Congratulations Adam, Josie, and Kellon!



## **Synod Assembly elects New Bishop**

The Rev. Greg Busboom was elected bishop of the Central/Southern Illinois Synod of the ELCA on Saturday, June 3 at the synod's annual assembly. Pastor Busboom has served as lead pastor at St. John's Evangelical Lutheran Church in Springfield, Illinois, since 2011. He previously served as Pastor of Outreach and Discipleship at St. John's from 2007 to 2011 and pastor of Trinity Lutheran Church in Carthage, Illinois, from 1999 to 2007. Pastor Busboom holds a Bachelor of Arts degree in English and history from the U of I at Urbana-Champaign; Master of Divinity degree from Trinity Lutheran Seminary in Columbus, Ohio; and Doctor of Ministry degree in congregational mission and leadership from Luther Seminary in St. Paul, Minnesota. Pastor Busboom will take office as bishop on September 1 and will be installed at a worship service on September 23 in Springfield. He succeeds the Rev. S. John Roth, who will retire on August 31 after 12 years of service as bishop.

## **Picnic Ministry – Sign Up to help with Outdoor Picnics**

Our Picnic Ministry Team is looking for some volunteers to help with preparing for the outdoor picnics this summer. **You can help by signing up on the sheets** by the Coffee Sales next to the Mission & Ministry Center/coat closet:

**Dates:** Sundays, August 6 and September 3

**Setup:** 6 volunteers each Sunday for tables and chairs at 8:30 am.

**Side Dishes:** 8 volunteers each Sunday – see the sign-up sheet for specifics.

**Desserts:** 3 volunteers each Sunday

**Clean Up:** 6 volunteers each Sunday to put away tables and chairs and clean in the kitchen

For more information, talk with Kevin and Martha Krohe on our Picnic Ministry Team.

# *Living Our Mission ... Faith Formation*

It's a new year with new opportunities for Small Groups!  
Check these out and consider how you might get involved.

## **Summer Youth Events**

It has been a busy summer of youth camps! On June 12-16, Adam and Mason Krohe and Benen and Marilyn Dichsen attended Crossways Confirmation Camp at Augustana College, Rock Island. On June 23-24, Benen and Marilyn Dichsen attended Performing Arts Camp at Green Pastures. Others will soon be attending a Fellowship of Christian Athletes camp at Illinois College and camps at Western Illinois Youth Camp. Thank you for supporting our youth as they grow in the love of Jesus and service to others!



## **National Youth Gathering 2024**

The ELCA National Youth Gathering takes place on July 16-20, 2024 as thousands of youth from across the country gather in New Orleans. If you have high school age youth who are interested, contact Monica Proefrock or Pastor Adam.

## **Friends From Faith**

Last month, we debuted a new ministry team led by Naomi Hahn called "Friends from Faith." On the last Sunday of each month, everyone is welcome to send a greeting card. **On July 30**, visit the tall 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.

## **Men's Breakfast**

Join us on Saturday, **July 1** for some delicious food and fellowship with the guys! Come at 8:00 to help in the kitchen and at 9:00 for food and conversation.

## **Discipleship Group**

How well do you know your Faith Family? Join us at 10:00am on Wednesday, **July 19** in the Faith Library to find out. If you haven't attended before, this would be a great time to start as we will dive a little deeper into the "Questions Box" and learn more about each other. For more information, please contact Kelly Hartz at (217) 502-1979 or by email at [khartz@sompo-intl.com](mailto:khartz@sompo-intl.com).

## **Women of Faith Fellowship Night**

The Women of Faith fellowship group is meeting for dinner on Wednesday, **July 19** at 6:00pm at The Hangout Bar & Grill. We'd love for you to join us! Please RSVP to Monica at 217-737-0475 **by Sunday, July 16**.

## **Monthly Movie on Pause**

The monthly Movie and Potluck will take a break during the summer months. Stay tuned as we hit the play button to resume in September!

# *Living Our Mission ... Showing Christ's Love*

Our mission calls us to “show Christ’s love” as we share the love of Jesus with one another at Faith and our neighbors near and far. Here are some ways you can join us!

## **Jacksonville Food Center**

Now that schools are out for the summer, families in need are more in need, as lunch every day for children is needed at home instead of away. {That’s a lot of needs!}

Even before school was out, the number of families needing food increased dramatically in May. 374 families (1,007 people) were served for food boxes in May, costing \$50,285. In comparison, April stats were 229 families (467 people). These statistics do not include the weekly bakery/produce customers.

Please remember all those who need help. Let us love our neighbor as ourselves. If you prefer bringing food donations to Faith, lunch items for kids such as canned (pop top) soups, spaghettis, crackers, peanut butter, jelly, or anything a child will find easy to prepare at home. Money donations are perfect for the Food Center to purchase exactly what is needed.

The churches donated \$2,115.00 in money and \$1,104.50 in food donations. In May, Faith church donated \$250 in money. An additional \$1,000 was given to the Food Center as a result of sharing our love after our congregational meeting.

*Lillian Korous*

## **Our Partnership with Pillars Continues to Grow!**

Thank you so much for your continued support for the Pillars of Africa Children’s Ministry in Uganda! HUGS, our own non-profit organization, continues to welcome new donations and sponsorships. Just this last month, through our involvement across the country, we have been able to secure sponsorships for 3 more children. That means 39 of 54 children are fully sponsored. A member at Faith also committed to sponsoring the nurse at the Pillars clinic, providing her monthly salary! We are grateful to God for this continued generosity. If you would like to give in any way, contact anyone from our team - Melissa or Kelly Street, Patty Nelson, Kevin Krohe, or Pastor Adam.

## **Donations needed**

“Matthew 25” is a thrift shop at 767 S. West Street in Jacksonville. It opened in 2013 with a mission to support local charities. Since then, 100% of the proceeds have gone back into the community. At this time, **they are in need of men’s jeans**. If you have some you would like to donate, you can take them to the thrift store or drop them off at the church and Diane Craig will take them to the shop.

## **Donations to Madagascar Lutheran Church in honor of Bishop John**

For years, the Central/Southern Illinois Synod of the ELCA has partnered with two companion synods in Madagascar. In 2014, a delegation from our synod, including Bishop John and Kris Roth, visited Madagascar to learn more about them and partner in ministry. In honor of Bishop John’s almost 24 years as our pastor here at Faith Lutheran Church and his 12 years of service as our synod bishop, we will be collecting donations to make a gift in his honor to support our ongoing partnership with the Malagasy Lutheran Church. If you would like to make a contribution, please designate it as “Madagascar.” We have been fortunate recipients of Bishop John’s faithful service over the last 36 years and are grateful to God for so many blessings!

## **Music Update**

I wish everyone a safe and fun summer — the Choir and Exaltation Ringers will meet again in the fall. If anyone is interested in doing something musical during the summer, please contact me. Join the Faith Singers as we help lead worship on Sunday mornings. Come early as we warm up and rehearse at 8:30.

*Jean Welch, Director of Music*

# Worship Assistants

## Chancel Committee

July 2 Kim Heise (outdoors)  
 July 9 Kris Roth  
 July 16 Karen Sibert  
 July 23 Pat Glyshaw  
 July 30 Martha Krohe

## Communion Assistants

July 2 Karen Sibert (outdoors)  
 July 9 Kay Schnitker  
 July 16 Hallie Mayner  
 July 23 Kay Schnitker  
 July 30 Ken Devlin

## Readers

July 2 Liddy Stark (outdoors)  
 July 9 Carol VanderKloot  
 July 16 Barb Davenport  
 July 23 Sharon Woodworth  
 July 30 **need volunteer**

## Coffee Hosts

July 2 *Outdoor Picnic*  
 July 9 Terri Kimler  
 July 16 Judy D. & Vicki R.  
 July 23 Kay Schnitker  
 July 30 **need volunteer**

## Greeters

July 2 Judy Dillard (outdoors)  
 July 9 Hallie Mayner  
 July 16 Lillian Korous  
 July 23 Kay & Sharon Woodworth  
 July 30 Debbie & Gayla

## Ushers

July 2 John Williams (outdoors)  
 July 9 Hallie Mayner  
 July 16 Hallie Mayner  
 July 23 Pat Glyshaw  
 July 30 **need volunteer**

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

## Financial Assistants

July 2 Mike Oldenettel & Kelly Street  
 July 9 Greg Kimler & Patty Nelson  
 July 16 Kelly Hartz & Patty Nelson  
 July 23 Kelly Hartz & Monica Proefrock  
 July 30 Ken Devlin & Mike Oldenettel

## Altar Plants

**(\$15 donation appreciated)**

Plants are placed in the chancel that remain for an extended period of time.

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.).

- July 2 By Carol Rauen in memory of Elizabeth Beranek  
& **Open for donation**
- July 9 By the Roth family in celebration of Drew & Maria Snodgrass' 11<sup>th</sup> wedding anniversary on July 8  
& **Open for donation**
- July 16 By Amy Kaufmann in celebration of her birthday on July 11  
& **Open for donation**
- July 23 **Open for donation**  
& **Open for donation**
- July 30 By the Roth family in celebration of Sam's birthday on August 3  
& **Open for donation**

## Newsletter Deadline

**July 16**

## Plastic Caps & Lids

Do you know about all those caps we've been collecting? **We found a source to make them into a bench for us... maybe two!** Keep bringing your caps and lids to the Mission & Ministry Center/coat closet at Faith. We also need helpers willing to sort (and possibly wash) them and weigh them before we take them for drop-off.

## Contribution Envelopes for 2023

are available in the Office. If you don't see a box with your name on it, please mention this to Barb Davenport, Pam Devlin, or Kris Roth. We will happily provide you with a box. If you would like to register for our easy, **automatic online giving service**, contact the church office. There are no fees, and it saves you from remembering to write that weekly check!