



# Faith Family

## News

August 2024

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

### Discipleship and Holy 2x4's

By Pastor Adam

One year ago, we replaced our committee ministry structure with "Total Ministry." Not only is it a new structure, but also a new shape. We strive to be an equilateral triangle that points up, in, and out. The directions correspond to worship (reaching up), discipleship (reaching within our congregation to strengthen one another), and outreach (reaching out to our neighbors near and far). During the planning, I was adamant that fellowship and discipleship are the same thing because building relationships is a part of walking with Jesus. One year later, I couldn't disagree with myself more!

During my sabbatical, my experience worshipping at other churches hit me with a holy 2x4 (figuratively). As I saw thriving discipleship ministries, I realized that fellowship is NOT discipleship. Fellowship helps us build relationships with one another, but those relationships could be completely void of Christ. Discipleship is so much more, but just what that "more" was, I wasn't quite sure. Figuring that out took another holy 2x4.

During my personal retreat on Lake Superior, I brought a stack of books, one of them was "Practicing the Way" by John Mark Comer. I knew nothing of the book or the author until a few days prior when a friend recommended it. Thanks to Amazon, I had it in my hands two days later and took it with me to Minnesota. I started reading it the North Shore Senior Center in Silver Bay. The coffee shop was closed and they were the only place open... they actually had great coffee and cookies too! There, with cookie crumbs in my lap, BAM, it hit me upside the head!

Discipleship is more than fellowship, *so much more*. But when Jesus called the disciples to follow, he was asking more than attending a weekly small group, learning about him, and sharing him with others. According to Comer, Jesus was inviting them into a life of apprenticeship.

What does apprenticeship look like? Comer identifies three goals:

1. Be with Jesus. Pretty simple. Spend time with God, in God's Word, in God's Creation, in prayer, in worship together with the Body of Christ and more.
2. Become like Jesus. How do we do this? Well... it's more something that God does to us. The more time we spend with Jesus, listening to what he said, learning about how he loved, and being challenged by how he calls us to live, God molds us into "little Christs" (Christians).
3. Do as Jesus Did. The final step of apprenticeship is to engage in the work of our master. When we do as Jesus did, we live lives of hospitality for others, we share the good news by telling others about God's love and work in our lives, and we demonstrate the gospel by loving others through acts of service.

For the month of August, we'll be diving deep into discipleship as we join John Mark Comer in learning how to Practice the Way through a sermon series. If you want more, pick up a copy of his book by the working cross (\$10). Join us after worship for discussion in the Justice Room. And look out... God may just have a holy 2x4 in store for you as well!

*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.

### **Back to Uganda!**

Melissa Street and Patty Nelson joined a group from Faith Lutheran Church in O'Fallon to return to our beloved friends at Pillars of Africa Children's Ministry. Pastor Adam and our Uganda crew led worship in O'Fallon last fall, and they jumped at the chance to get involved! Together, they are spending two weeks from July 18-August 1 to



reconnect with the children, assist with the renovations of the orphanage dorms, lead some children's ministry, and be God's hands and feet in whatever way arises. Follow their journey on Faith's Facebook page. They also identified some ways that we can significantly help financially. HUGS is looking to raise \$1,600 to repair the primary school ceilings, \$3,000 to re-tile the school floors (\$600/room), \$500 for a new worship drum set, and partners in helping to raise \$19,000 to purchase the parsonage and ensure Patrick and Madina have a good home near the church and schools. If you would like to financially support our ministry with Pillars, please direct your gift to the nonprofit HUGS (Hearts United in God's Service) by making a check out to them and placing it in our offering or making an online donation designated to HUGS on our website.



### **ELCA National Youth Gathering in New Orleans**

Marilyn and Benen Dichsen joined 16,000 other ELCA youth for the National Youth Gathering in New Orleans on July 15-20. It was a week packed with faith formation through interactive learning, worship, Bible study, service, and fellowship. The theme this year was "Created to Be" as they focused on how God creates us to be brave, authentic, free, disruptive, and disciples, sent out into the world to love our neighbor just as we are loved by God. Many thanks to First English Lutheran Church in Peoria for letting them tag along!

### **Death of Bob Chipman**

We join in grief over the death of Bob Chipman, friend and family of our congregation. Bob's wife, Janet Chipman, is the sister of John Williams. Bob died on Saturday, July 20. A funeral service will take place on Tuesday, July 30 at 1:00pm at First Presbyterian Church with a private burial.

### **Upcoming Baptisms**

What a blessing it has been to celebrate so many baptisms this summer! We have three more in the month ahead:

- July 28: Kate Nelson, daughter of Emily & Patrick Nelson
- August 4: Reiss Proefrock, son of Monica Proefrock
- August 25: Hazel Sibert, daughter of David & Carly Sibert



## Discipleship Focus:

### “Be with Jesus” through Worship

As we focus on discipleship, we learn that discipleship begins by being with Jesus. We can do this in many ways, but together we join for worship.

### Outdoor Worship on August 4

Our outdoor worship services continue on August 4 and September 1. 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 the Justice Room windows, as well as being live streamed). Following the service, we will move indoors for a potluck meal in the Great Room. Come early if you'd like to help set up chairs. Invite a friend and join us for these wonderful times together!

### Sermon Series: “Discipleship”

As you read on the newsletter cover, discipleship was a major discovery during Pastor Adam’s sabbatical and a mark of vibrant ministry. In the month ahead, we will look at what it means to be a disciple of Jesus... or better put, an apprentice.

- July 28 - Discipleship or Apprenticeship?
- August 4 - Goal #1: Be with Jesus
- August 11 - Goal #2: Become like Jesus
- August 18 - Goal #3: Do as Jesus Did
- August 25 - Practicing the Way

### Uganda Worship September 15

Our Uganda team had a great time leading worship in Columbia, IL last month. As they continue to share this ministry, more partners step forward. On September 15, we will have our own worship service and presentation to hear from Melissa and Patty about what they experienced together and learn about new developments in ministry at Pillars of Africa. Please join us for this special service and reception/presentation afterwards.

*Right: Jenny Roberts (Youth Director at Faith Lutheran in O’Fallon) preaches in Uganda.*

*Far Right: The Pillars worship team leads in Spirit-filled worship.*



### Indoor Potluck on August 4

Following outdoor worship on Aug. 4 we will move indoors for a potluck meal in the Great Room. Bring a dish to share and enjoy this meal together. We are in need of volunteers to help set up and clean up. If you are able, please sign up by the Total Ministry Center.

### Music is a great way to connect!

We are always looking for people to sing or play special music for a prelude or a stewardship offering. Please contact Jean Welch if you are interested in sharing your musical gifts.

[jrwelch53@msn.com](mailto:jrwelch53@msn.com) or 217-652-7009  
(phone/text)

Flows. Grows. Shows



## *Discipleship Focus: “Become like Jesus” through Discipleship*

As we focus on discipleship, we learn the importance of becoming like Jesus. Here are some ways we do this together.

### **New Opportunities for our Children and Youth**

Children’s and Youth ministry has been an expressed desire for our congregation, but it has been a challenge to get it going since the pandemic. Here are some new ways we are offering discipleship for our children and youth and an invitation for helpers.

- Sunday School for the Fall - Our after worship Sunday School didn’t have the volunteers to be sustainable last school year, so we are considering other possibilities. We plan to kick off a new plan on Sunday, September 8 and will have more details to come.
- Youth Group - Adam Krohe, Marilyn Dichsen, and Barb Davenport are starting a Youth Ministry Team to plan events for our youth... and more! While some events are for youth only, others will be intergenerational opportunities for everyone. If you have an idea or desire to help, contact one of these team members.
- Confirmation - Confirmation classes will begin in September with six Sunday evening sessions beginning with a meal at 5:30pm and lessons/activities from 6:00-7:30. If you would like to help provide a meal or help lead an activity, let Pastor Adam know.
- Bible Boot Camp - Pastor Adam is bringing this program back for 1-6 graders. We will meet on the same Sundays as confirmation, from 4:30-5:30pm, beginning with some music and fun, then diving into our Bibles. Parents are encouraged to attend, and we are looking for helpers with music and activities. Families are welcome to stick around for the meal at 5:30.

### **Men’s Breakfast**

Come and connect with other men as we share our faith and enjoy some good food on **Saturday, August 3**. At 8:00, we hang out in the kitchen, helping to cook, drink coffee, and visit. At 9:00, we sit down for the feast and to share some conversation and discussion on a specific topic. This is a great way to invite someone new to Faith!

### **Women of Faith**

It's time for another Women of Faith game night! Join us on **Wednesday, August 14<sup>th</sup> at 6:00pm at Pam Devlin's house**. Bring a snack to share and your favorite card or board game. We'd love to have you join us! Contact Monica Proefrock with questions: 217-737-0475.

### **Discipleship Group**

Join our monthly discussion at 10am on Wed., Aug. 21 in the Faith Library. Spend time with others in prayer, study, and conversation. For more info, contact Kelly Hartz: 217-502-1979 or [khartz@sompo-intl.com](mailto:khartz@sompo-intl.com).

### **Sunday Morning Discussions**

Our discussions on “What is a Lutheran” after worship in June went really well, and we want to provide more opportunities for conversation. During the sermon series on Discipleship, Pastor Adam will lead discussion on the topic of the day, following the book “Practicing the Way” by John Mark Comer. Books are available for \$10 each, but you don’t have to read it to be a part of the discussion.

**Practicing  
the Way**

Be with Jesus  
Become like him  
Do as he did

## *Discipleship Focus:*

### *“Do as Jesus Did” through Service*

As we focus on discipleship, follow Jesus in our actions through service to others.



### **Doorbell Dinners September 9-13**

Help us deliver meals in the community through our community wide Doorbell Dinners ministry. We are in need of drivers & deliverers to cover the needs of five routes — time commitment is 11:15-12:30 each day. For more information and to sign up, visit the signup counter by the Fair Trade coffee sales.

### **Soup Luncheon Carry-Out Style**

We would like to have our annual Soup Luncheon like we did last year — carry-out meals of a soup and dessert on a **Sunday in October** after church until 1:00pm — stay tuned for the date. Please plan to purchase lunch to take home that day and consider offering to help with the preparation. This event will also be open to the public.

### **God’s Work... Our Hands September 8**

On Sunday, September 8, we will join with ELCA congregations across the country to celebrate the annual “God’s Work/Our Hands” Sunday. It’s a day of service where we commit our hands to doing God’s work in our community. There will be a variety of opportunities to serve as we revisit our 75<sup>th</sup> anniversary service projects that were cancelled last fall due to rain. Stay tuned for more and get ready to serve!

### **Jacksonville Area Conference of Churches Life & Works Project**

Each Fall, Jacksonville welcomes numerous college students to our area. The Jacksonville Area Conference of Churches will be distributing collected items to all students at Illinois College’s Community Involvement Night. Each student will receive snacks, as well as welcome messages and information from contributing churches. Faith is invited to participate! **Collect granola bars, cheese crackers, and peanut butter crackers from now until August 11** and place them in the blue box in the Mission & Ministry Center.

Questions? Contact Pat Glyshaw at 217-243-8093, or [pat.glyshaw@gmail.com](mailto:pat.glyshaw@gmail.com).

Together, we can do great things!

### **Jacksonville Food Center**

Summer has been busy, as expected, because of increased food consumption at home for school children who would normally have one or two meals each weekday at school. Donations of foods and cash have been pretty well provided, although foods disappear very quickly from the shelves. One day shelves seem filled, the next, they are mostly empty spaces. On one day in June, 43 food boxes were filled in 2½ hours.

Our Faith Church donated increased amounts of cash and foods in June. We ARE blessed, and this is one way to serve others in response. \$460 in cash and \$366 in foods were donated. Empty egg cartons are also needed and seem to be provided at each delivery to the Food Center. Thank you all!!!

*Lillian Korous*

# Worship Assistants

## Chancel Committee

Aug. 4 Karen Sibert (*outdoors*)  
Aug. 11 Pat Glyshaw  
Aug. 18 Kris Roth  
Aug. 25 Kim Heise

## Communion Assts.

Aug. 4 Barb Davenport (*outdoors*)  
Aug. 11 Barb Davenport  
Aug. 18 Kay Schnitker  
Aug. 25 Hallie Mayner

## Readers

Aug. 4 Liddy Stark (*outdoors*)  
Aug. 11 John Williams  
Aug. 18 Carol VanderKloot  
Aug. 25 Barb Davenport

## Coffee Hosts

Aug. 4 *indoor picnic*  
Aug. 11 **need volunteer**  
Aug. 18 Kay Schnitker  
Aug. 25 Barb Davenport

## Greeters

Aug. 4 Lynette Hamilton  
(*outdoors*)  
Aug. 11 Lillian Korous  
Aug. 18 Barb Fishback  
Aug. 25 **need volunteer**

## Ushers

Aug. 4 Barb Davenport (*outdoors*)  
Aug. 11 Pat Glyshaw  
Aug. 18 Hallie Mayner  
Aug. 25 Larry Kuster

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.

## Altar Plants

(\$15 donation appreciated)

Altar plants in August are spider plants that send off little plantlets, reminding us to be and make disciples. On the last Sunday, all are invited to take a clipping for home.

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.).

Aug. 4 By Kris & Bishop John Roth in celebration of Sam's birthday on Aug. 3  
& By the Dichsen family in celebration of Pastor Adam's birthday n August 6

Aug. 11 **Open for donation**  
& **Open for donation**

Aug. 18 By Greg & Terri Kimler in celebration of their 45<sup>th</sup> wedding anniversary  
& **Open for donation**

Aug. 25 **Open for donation**  
& **Open for donation**

## Financial Assistants

Aug. 4 Greg Kimler & Patty Nelson  
Aug. 11 Ken Devlin & Kelly Hartz  
Aug. 18 Kelly Hartz & Gaylon Martin  
Aug. 25 Malinda Carlson & Monica Proefrock

## 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 August 25**, 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.

## Plastic Caps & Lids

We stopped collecting caps in December, and the Jacksonville Public Library is no longer taking them. Please let us know if you hear of a place where they can be taken.

GFL Recycling says that you can leave caps on clean, recyclable #1 and #2 plastic bottles when you add them to your recycling bin.

## Newsletter Deadline

**August 18**