

August Birthdays

Raymond Sommers	8/1
Leah Southwood	8/11
Nina Severson	8/16
Jessica Jain	8/25
Alisha Southwood	8/25
Alex Huggett	8/26
Kari Kellen	8/29



August Anniversaries

Ron + Karen Baerbock	8/1
Cody + Heidi Heller	8/1
Scott + Nancy Templeton	8/6
Dave + Lori Spaude	8/7
Dave + Kari Kellen	8/12
Cliff + Cheryl Kremmer	8/16
Richard + Rita Selin	8/25
Richard + Lisa Treptow	8/27





The Messenger

The Messenger

August 2022

What's a good Bible reading plan?

“Where do I begin?” is a question I have often asked. Whether it’s building a barbeque pit, fixing the kitchen sink, or helping my children with school projects, I have often asked, “Where do I begin?” and, “How can I finish?” The same can be true of reading your Bible. It helps to have a plan and know what to look for.

To begin with, realize that the Bible is a special book. In fact, it is the most special of all the books ever written. The Bible was given to us by God as he enabled men to write down the very words and thoughts of God. With that in mind, ask God to help you understand what he is saying when you read it.

Second, understand the purpose of why God gave us the Bible. The apostle Paul writes, “Everything that was written in the past was



written to teach us so that through endurance and the encouragement of the Scriptures we might have hope.” The Apostle John wrote, “These are written that you may believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God, and that by believing you may have life in his name.” The purpose of the Bible is to give us hope and life. When you read it, look for the true hope that God offers you in Christ. Look for everlasting life that God promises to his people—to you and me through his Son Jesus.

Third, you might ask, “Where do I start?” I suggest you read Genesis,

where God gives life and hope to real people who really lived in ancient times. Then I suggest you read one of the Gospels (Matthew, Mark, Luke, or John) to learn more about Jesus, the promised Son of God. From there, you may read the Psalms, which are prayers and hymns of God’s people. You may also read Acts, where the story of the early Christian church is told. Read Romans and the other letters that follow it. Though these were written 2,000 years ago, they are still fitting for us today.

At times, the Bible might confuse you. But as you read it, continue to focus on Jesus through whom God gives us life and hope. And if you would like some help understanding the Bible, talk to your Pastor. In addition, Bible Classes are great places to ask questions, gain insight into the Bible, and learn how it all fits together.



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N6774 Acorn Ave.
Sparta, WI 54656

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Pastor: Joel Neumann

Faith Evangelical Lutheran Church is a part of the Wisconsin Evangelical Lutheran Synod or WELS. The WELS is a church body with congregations in all fifty states and missionaries in 25 countries.

We are a Christ Preaching Church! We believe, teach and confess that Jesus is God’s own Son, who came into the world to be the Savior of all people so that through his sufferings, death and resurrection, we might have forgiveness of sins and eternal life.

We’re on the Web!
www.faithwels.com

The Messenger is published monthly for the congregation and friends of Faith Ev. Lutheran Church. Its purpose is to provide information regarding all areas of congregational news and to offer enlightening articles.

Anyone wishing to contribute articles, contact—in person or by email—or Laura Mueller: mueller-laura@hotmail.com or Pastor Neumann: pastorjoelneumann@gmail.com

Newsletter deadline: The submission deadline is the next-to-the-last Sunday of each month.



CENTRAL AFRICA MEDICAL MISSION

July 2022



It has been cool and moist the past few days with cloudy skies and showers here and there. June 2022 is the beginning of a new adventure for the Lutheran Mobile Clinic, as the orientated and trained Malawian nationals, the Clinic Administrator and Nurse in Charge Lusungu and Violet respectively took over from Gary and Beth. This new adventure is a huge move forward, but the year of orientation with Gary and Beth made us well prepared. In as much as we are nervous about it, it is comforting to know that Gary as the Field Director is just a text or a call away to guide us, and will visit every 3 months. As the new Administrator and Nurse in Charge, we intend to continue the good stewardship the previous Administrators and Nurses in Charge have done with very careful use of funds and to ensure that our staff and patients are treated with respect and dignity. Your financial gifts are generous, timely and necessary. The pill bottles used for dispensing liquid medicine, sunscreen and hats for albinos, other generous goodies, cards, and letters are very much appreciated.

The clinic has recruited a young man by the name of Vincent Malimwe who will start as of 1st July 2022. He has been given the post of second driver as well as general staff and will be trained in various duty stations at the clinic. He will be trained to check blood pressure and malaria testing. The clinic has seen increased numbers of high blood pressure patients in the past months. Mr. Malimwe will also work as a driver if our current driver Mr. Supu has called a day off, since it is a goal for us to never miss a clinic day due to foreseen circumstances.

“Colossians 3:23-24, whatever you do, work at it with a sincere heart, as though you were working for the lord and not for people. Remember that the lord will give you as a reward what he has kept for his people. For Christ is the real master you serve”. Many situations in this life are different, and people go to work with different circumstances, some are happy days and some are dark days but at all times let us do whatever is required without doubt or hesitation. “I am alpha and the omega, the first and last beginning and the end. Revelation 22-13”. He is our beginning and our end. Through him we have everything. With assurance like that lets bring on the new adventure set before us.

Your sister in Christ,

Lusungu Mwambeye, Clinic Administrator – Lutheran Mobile Clinic Malawi

MONETARY Donations may be made by Check: Payable to Central Africa Medical Mission and Mailed to: WELS Gift Processing N16 W23377 Stone Ridge Drive Waukesha WI 53188 Or MONETARY Donations to CAMM online @ www.camm.us/donate-to-camm

SUNDAY SCHOOL – SOMETHING A LITTLE DIFFERENT THIS YEAR

To help us in our planning for Sunday School, we are doing something a little different this year. We are asking that you take a moment to register your child before Sunday school starts. This registration will assist us in four (4) ways:

- 1) In ordering material
- 2) In planning for singing in church
- 3) In planning for our Christmas Eve service
- 4) Enabling us to order the proper size t-shirt for your child

The t-shirt will have this year's Sunday School theme on it – **Rooted in the Word of God**. It is based on the words of Colossians 2:6,7 – “*just as you received Christ Jesus as Lord, continue to live in him, rooted and built up in him.*” That is our fervent prayer for this Sunday school year!

Registration sheets can be found in the gathering area, and we would appreciate receiving them by **August 28**. A box for completed registration forms will be available on the gathering area table as well.

If you have questions about Sunday school, please contact Brad Markhardt at (715-284-4394) or at bamarkhardt@charter.net

Sunday School starts on September 11th and runs from 9:15-10:15 a.m.

WHEN WILL SERVICE TIME CHANGE AGAIN ?

Have you been wondering, “When will the service times change again?” It's still a month away. However, so that this information can be cemented in our minds, our service times will change on **Sunday, September 11**. On that Sunday, our worship, Bible class, and Sunday School schedule will be as follows:

- 8 am Worship in Black River Falls
- 9:15 am Bible Class and Sunday School in Black River Falls
- 9:45 am Worship in Cataract
- 11 am Bible Class in Cataract

TRAVELING THIS SUMMER?

If travel or vacation plans take you away from Black River Falls or Cataract this summer, remember: you can catch our worship service live on Faith's Facebook page, or you can go to **wels.net** and click on the church locator to find a sister WELS church at which to worship in the area you are at.

MEMBER ASSISTANCE PROGRAM



Through the Member Assistance Program (MAP), members of our congregation now have access to confidential counseling services from WELS/ELS mental health professionals, using secure, online video technology. Short-term counseling is available from any private location that has an Internet connection and a web cam. Telephone counseling is also available. If you are interested, please talk to Pastor.

Christian counseling staff is able to help you & your family with:

- Stress and adjustment disorders
- Grief and loss
- Depression
- Social anxiety
- Post-traumatic stress disorder
- Marriage/couples counseling
- Parenting/family issues
- Self-esteem issues
- Substance and alcohol abuse
- Work and/or family situations

To learn more about video-assisted counseling, please visit www.ChristianFamilySolutions.org or call 800.438.1772.



www.ChristianFamilySolutions.org
800.438.1772

From The Library

Our church library located in the Fellowship Hall at our BRF location has a complete set of "The People's Bible." Each book includes the NIV translation of the Bible and commentary following the Scripture sections. The commentary contains historical background, explanation of the text, and personal applications. Each author started with the original Hebrew or Greek and then worked to bring the message of God's Word to the people. Two truths guide the commentaries: 1. The Bible is God's inspired Word - true and reliable. 2. The message of the entire Bible is Jesus Christ.

To checkout, write the date, your name, and the name of the book/DVD/CD in the notebook on the shelf.

To return, put the book/DVD/CD into the basket on the shelf and cross out your entry in the notebook.



GIVING GOD GLORY AND GOING "ALL IN"

Everything we have is a gift from God. If you think through the gifts God gives, the most important ones fit nicely into five categories. They can be called the 5 "T"s. God gives us everything we have, and he wants us to put him first when it comes to our time, talents, treasures, temple, and his truth.

Ask the average Christian what "stewardship" is, and they will probably tell you it's when the church talks about money. That's only part of it. A steward is another word for "manager." So, stewardship is managing God's resources God's way because of God's love – not just 10% of our money but managing 100% of everything God gives us.

Starting in September and going through December, once a month we will set aside a Sunday to focus on A God-Lived Life stewardship challenge. This will be a whole-life challenge to us as God's people – a challenge to live the life to which he has called us. The hope is to be challenged in specific ways so that we are urged to put into practice a closer walk with God and a life of love toward others.

That's a God-lived life.



Women's Retreat

Held in the Activity Center
at St. John's Lutheran
Church & School
180 Williams Street,
Lewiston, MN

Saturday, August 27th

Agenda:

- | | |
|---------|---|
| 8:15am | Doors Open |
| 8:30am | Registration & Breakfast |
| 9:00am | Morning Devotion |
| 9:30am | Session - Our identity in Christ |
| 10:30am | Break with Mingle Activities |
| 11:00am | Session - God's unique design for us as women |
| 12:00pm | Lunch (meal provided) |
| 1:00pm | Session - Serving others with our temperament and giftings |
| 2:30pm | Closing Devotion |
| 3:00pm | Dismissal |

Early Bird Registration: **\$20** (by July 31st)

August 1 - 20th: **\$25**

Week of the event and at the door: **\$30**
(online registration is closed, must call the number below)

Register online at:

<http://flourishretreat.lewistonlutherans.org/>

Or call 507.523.2508 for help in registering

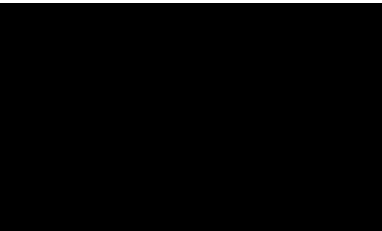
BRF Landscape Brigade

Consider helping the BRF Landscape Brigade on Saturday, August 20, from 8:00-9:00 a.m. Notice this is the third Saturday of August. This month we will be putting down mulch, dead-heading and doing some weeding & pruning. The Landscape Brigade will meet the second Saturday of each month, April through October, from 8:00-9:00 a.m. Tools will be provided, but feel free to bring your own if you would like to.



RUMMAGE FOR FISH!

Do you have unwanted clothing, toys, or household items? The Good Steward Resale Store is a resale shop in La Crosse that provides financial support for Luther High School (our area Lutheran High School) in Onalaska as well as area Lutheran grade schools.



You may bring items with you to church on August 7 and August 14. You may also bring items on Saturday, August 20, between 9-11 a.m. We can also use help organizing the items and then taking them down to Good Steward in LaCrosse on that day. We'll eat lunch in LaCrosse.

These are items that the Good Steward Resale Store does NOT accept:	Desks: heavy metal	Oil and gasoline	Sofa beds
	Diaper genies	Opened paint	Space heaters (gas)
	Dishwashers	Organs (large)	Stoves
	Dryers	Paper shredders	Swing sets
	Exercise equipment	Plumbing fixtures	Tires
	Fluorescent or black bulbs	Pianos	Televisions
	Golf clubs/bags	Pictures	Trampolines
	Hot water heaters	Picture frames	Typewriters
	Kerosene stoves/lanterns	Ping pong tables	Vacuum cleaners
	Lawn mowers	Pool tables	Venetian blinds
	Lava lamps	Range hoods	Washers
	Life preservers	Refrigerators	Waterbeds
	Mangles	Scrap lumber	Water softeners
	Mattresses/box springs	Sewing machines	Weights/weight benches
	Metal bed springs	Shutters	Windows/screens/doors
	Microwaves	Skis	

GET READY FOR BIBLE SOCCER CAMP

- ☐ Faith Lutheran Church will once again have Bible Soccer Camp this summer. It will be held Monday to Wednesday, August 1 – August 3, in Black River Falls (come each day or some of the days).
- ☐ The Bible Soccer Camp is for children ages 4-13.
- ☐ The Bible Soccer Camp will be held from 9 a.m.– 12 p.m. each day.
- ☐ There is no cost for this Bible Soccer Camp. Each child will receive a t-shirt and water bottle.
- ☐ The Bible Soccer Camp activities will include physical training and Bible studies.
- ☐ Each child should have appropriate footwear.
- ☐ There will also be snack time, craft time, and music time.
- ☐ The Bible Soccer Camp registration and waiver can be found online at www.faithwels.com or in the gathering area. Questions? Call 284-0772.



Next Worship at the Cross will be Saturday, August 27, at 1 pm at our Black River Falls campus.



JESUS CARES MINISTRIES
Worship at the Cross