

### Anniversaries

Greg + Elaine Fatla 6/8

Ken + Carolyn Diener 6/15

Mark + Laura Mueller 6/17

Brad + Kelly Rahmlow 6/26



**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 Are A Bible Teaching Church!** We believe and teach that the Bible is the true and divinely inspired Word of God, the sole authority for Christian faith and life.



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We're on the Web!  
[www.faithwels.com](http://www.faithwels.com)

### Birthdays

Devon Dennis 6/1

Wyatt Anderson 6/2

Janeen Folgers 6/4

Roger Olson 6/5

Pastor Ron Baerbock 6/9

Nancy Kirchman 6/11

Pastor Joel Neumann 6/16

Malachi Neumann 6/17

Ian Timm 6/17

Mary Sasman 6/17

Tyler Jessie 6/19

Kristopher Schwartzenberger 6/21

Adalee Laufenberg 6/24

Rachel Neumann 6/24

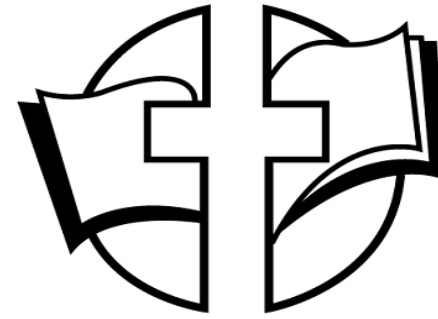
Cooper Fatla 6/25

Karen Baerbock 6/25

Gavin Mueller 6/26

Sherry Bue 6/28

Linda Geddes 6/30



## The Messenger

**JUNE 2021**

### OUR GOD IS...FAITHFUL

*Everything that exists has attributes or characteristics. They are what help to define that thing. God has attributes as well. This newsletter article takes a look at one more attribute of God.*

The headline read: "Faithful guard dog unfaithful." The story provided the details. A store owner was robbed. The wily thief tested the guard dog's faithfulness with a juicy steak, and the dog failed the test.

Faithfulness is questionable in pets and humans. "Dog bites child." "Spouse deserts partner." "Employee accepts rival company offer." "Cat destroys owner's furniture."

Is anyone trustworthy? Is anyone ever completely faithful to his word?

The Bible says, "God is faithful, who has called you into fellowship with his Son Jesus Christ our Lord" (1 Corinthians 1:9).

God's faithfulness can be seen in his daily preservation of the world. He makes grass grow and trees bud. He sends sunshine and rain. He provides plants and animals as food to keep us alive. He even does all this without our asking.

God is faithful to his promise: "As long as the earth endures, seedtime and harvest, cold and heat, summer and winter, day and night will nev-

er cease" (Genesis 8:22).

God's faithfulness can be seen in his faithfulness to you. Despite the world's unworthiness, despite the fact that each of us is the worst of sinners, God kept his prom-

ise to send a Savior to stand in the place of all people and take the punishment sin deserves. So Jesus humbled himself and died on a cross as the ransom price for a world of guilty sinners. It is faith in this Jesus that connects us to the forgiveness and salvation he won.

God's faithfulness is what comforts us when we are feeling guilty. He promises that he forgives us because of what Jesus did to rescue us from our sins.

God's faithfulness is what comforts us when we are afraid of death. He promises us eternal life because Jesus defeated death when he rose from the grave.

Whatever you are facing or afraid of, you can take comfort in God's promises because he is always faithful.

*faithful*

**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, please contact Pastor Neumann either in person or at the following email address: [pastorjoelneumann@gmail.com](mailto:pastorjoelneumann@gmail.com). Or send information to Laura Mueller at [muellerlaura@hotmail.com](mailto:muellerlaura@hotmail.com) Deadline for information is the next-to-the-last Sunday of each month.

# CONCERT IN THE PARK

A photograph of Mike Westendorf, a man with a beard and glasses, playing an acoustic guitar. He is wearing a dark sweater and is positioned in front of a brick wall with a window. The text "MIKE WESTENDORF IN CONCERT" is overlaid at the top in a bold, sans-serif font. Below the photo, there is a white box with black text providing event details: "LUNDA PARK - BLACK RIVER FALLS", "TUESDAY - JUNE 29 - 7PM", "HOSTED BY FAITH LUTHERAN CHURCH", "MORE INFO: FAITHWELS.COM", and "MIKEWESTENDORF.COM".

Faith Lutheran Church will once again be hosting a concert in the park at the Lunda Community Park this summer. It is scheduled for Tuesday, June 29, at 7 pm. This year, the Mike Westendorf band will be here. Mike is a member at St. Paul's Lutheran Church (WELS) in Muskego, WI, and has been touching lives with his music ministry since 2007. To learn more about Mike and his music, check out [www.mikewestendorf.com](http://www.mikewestendorf.com).

## LIBRARY CORNER



The DVD, *To the Ends of the Earth*, has been added to our church library located in the Fellowship Hall of our BRF location. This is a companion DVD to *My Son, My Savior, Come Follow Me*, and *Road to Emmaus*. This new DVD follows Paul's visit to Philippi as he connects with people from all walks of life and shows that the good news of Jesus is for all people.

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

## Faith Evangelical Lutheran Church Council Meeting Minutes Summary May 17, 2021

### OPENING

The meeting opened at 6:00 pm by watching the first section of the “God’s People Gather” roundtable discussion distributed by synod.

### ATTENDANCE

Pastor Neumann, Garrett Jessie, Dale Jessie, Dave Spaude, Rick Treptow (via phone), Tyler Jessie

### ELDER’S REPORT

Moved, seconded and confirmed (MSC) to transfer Stephen Kirsch to St. Andrew’s Lutheran Church in Middleton, WI  
Elders are organizing a “God’s People Gather” Sunday for the first Sunday in December. The point of this special service is to remind and encourage members of the blessings of gathering together and in person for worship.

### PASTOR’S REPORT

Pastor presented a statistical report for the month of April  
Council reviewed several bible class opportunities for the upcoming year  
Mission Festival will be planned for early 2022

### FINANCIAL REPORT

Tyler presented a financial report showing a net loss of \$8247.15 in the month of April. MSC to accept financial report for April, 2021

### SPECIAL REPORTS

Outreach Committee Report was given by Brad Markhardt  
The concert in the park will be the 29th of June at 7 pm at Lunda park in BRF  
The first FISH outing will be held June 12th at the church in BRF  
Bible Soccer Camp will be held this year August 9-11  
Discussion was had about making our library more assessable for our members who regularly worship at our Cataract campus. For the time being it was suggested that books that have duplicate copies be brought down to Cataract, and a list of the other books be made available for members to look at. If they would desire one of the books on the list, Pastor would be asked to bring it on a Sunday. The location of the books in Cataract is still under discussion.

Property Committee Report was given by Pastor Neumann

All components for the live streaming project have arrived and are installed except for the projector, which is on back order.  
A gas leak will need to be fixed at our Black River Falls campus  
The mower at our Black River Falls campus needed repair. The cost of repair was \$525

### OLD BUSINESS

Council created a plan and timeline for the Jubilee Debt Reduction Offering including special worship services, newsletter articles, devotions and mailings.

The meeting adjourned at 8:30 pm with Pastor leading us in the Lord’s Prayer  
The next Council Meeting will be held June 28th in BRF at 6pm.  
Recorded by Garrett Jessie





## May 2021 CAMM Monthly Newsletter

*“And we know that for those who love God all things work together for good, for those who are called according to his purpose.” Romans 8:28*



Hello Supporters – It is hard to believe it is May 2021 already and this is the third letter about our Nationalization in Malawi. We are very excited for the support and enthusiasm received over our plan to entrust more of the day-to-day operations to our Malawi staff. In the last letter, we clarified what it means that we are nationalizing our Malawi operations and mentioned that we would have a stateside Field Director and a Malawian Nurse-in-Charge and Administrator. This month, we are very pleased to tell you about each of the people who will be holding these positions.

Violet Chikwatu has accepted the position of Nurse-in-Charge (NIC). She is an RN and has been a nurse with the Lutheran Mobile Clinic (LMC) in Lilongwe, Malawi for 3 years. Violet was the recipient of the Althea Sauer scholarship for her Bachelor's Degree Nursing program at Daeyang College of Nursing, graduating in 2017. She had many clinical experiences in hospital and clinic settings in Malawi before graduating and was eager to work for the LMC. Violet applied for the NIC position because she felt called to being a nurse leader since graduation. Violet is a member of Crown of Life Lutheran Church in Lilongwe.

Violet has been wonderful asset to our clinical staff. Though usually of a quiet demeanor, she doesn't hesitate to demonstrate her nursing expertise at clinic. Whether it is teaching patients about medications, doing prenatal exams, helping out with vaccinations, or starting IVs on very sick patients, she is capable and quick to deal with the situation at hand. Violet has a strong Christian faith and it shows in her interaction with patients and her coworkers. She has already been assisting Beth with working in the pharmacy, learning about what the NIC does when not at clinic including purchasing medications, visiting the District Health Office for vaccines and doing monthly reports.

Lusungu Mwambeye will be LMC's first National Clinic administrator. Lusungu is a member of St. Peters, LCCA church in Lilongwe, and was highly recommended by Pastor Msiska, the pastor of St. Peters. Lusungu has a Bachelor's degree in Public Health from the Livingstonia University in Malawi. Prior to joining LMC she worked as Programs and Operations Manager at New Beginnings Malawi - a non-profit organization providing education and support for young single mothers. There she managed payroll, weekly and monthly reporting, scheduling staff, writing funding proposals, and communications with beneficiaries and community members. She has also worked as a Research Assistant for another NGO – Family Health International.

Finally, we are pleased to announce that Gary Evans will continue as the Field Director overseeing both the Zambia and Malawi clinic operations even after he and Beth move home in 2022. God blessed CAMM when He led Beth and Gary to their respective Malawi positions. Gary took on the additional responsibility of training and coaching our new Zambian National administrator, Alisad Banda, so Gary was a natural fit to continue in this Field Director role. Gary has been a timely asset to CAMM in the clinic repair work done at the Mwembezi, Zambia clinic and all the Malawi clinics. We are truly blessed to have his continued leadership through this transition and beyond!

Please continue to keep our staff, Beth and Gary Evans and the patients we serve in your prayers. We thank God for all of you, our generous and loyal supporters, daily. The credit for the work we can do belongs only to God and his grace and goodness. Until next time, may His face shine upon you!

Written by Shelly Sievert – Chairman; on behalf of the CAMM Stateside Committee

# JUBILEE DEBT REDUCTION OFFERING

## PROFILES IN GIVING

As we search the Bible, we soon discover that there are no shortages of saints who excelled in selfless giving. Just consider a few:

### The widow

*“[Jesus] also saw a poor widow put in two very small copper coins. <sup>3</sup>“I tell you the truth,” he said, “this poor widow has put in more than all the others. <sup>4</sup>All these people gave their gifts out of their wealth; but she out of her poverty put in all she had to live on” (Luke 21:2-4).*

Faith that God would provide for her needs prompted the widow to give her amazing gift.

### The Macedonians

*“And now, brothers, we want you to know about the grace that God has given the Macedonian churches. <sup>3</sup>For I testify that they gave as much as they were able, and even beyond their ability. Entirely on their own, <sup>4</sup>they urgently pleaded with us for the privilege of sharing in this service to the saints” (2 Corinthians 8:1,3-4).*

It was love and gratitude for the priceless blessings they received in and through Christ that moved the Macedonian churches to give so generously.

### Jesus

*“For you know the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, that though he was rich, yet for your sakes he became poor, so that you through his poverty might become rich” (2 Corinthians 8:9).*

Out of love for us, Christ gave up his home in glory to give us eternal life.

Now, what about us? This month we begin our special Jubilee Debt Reduction Offering in which we seek to reach \$100,000. We will hold our first “Jubilee” service on June 13<sup>th</sup>. You will hear a ministry moment from our church council. You will receive a letter and an envelope giving you the opportunity to prayerfully consider what the Lord may enable you to give in support of this offering. All this will be done with the goal of spending down our debt and enabling us to continue and expand our ministries for the present and the future.

But you know, when it comes right down to it, stewardship and giving isn't really about us. Ultimately, it's about our risen Savior Jesus. Because he lives, he swallowed up death for all! When he rose, he received the Father's “not guilty” verdict for all of humanity. His Life is our life. His Death is our death. His resurrection is our victory!

The promise and the power of Jesus' resurrection is more real to us than the air we breathe, than the flowers on the trees in spring, than the rising sun, than the stars above. These things will all pass away, but the word of God which reveals to us his love for us in Jesus will never pass away.

This is where giving must begin! Christian giving can only begin with an understanding of the love of Christ that moved him to willingly and gladly give himself for us. Only then will we be moved to willingly support his work. Only then will we gladly return to him from what he has given to us.

As a member of Faith Lutheran Church, you are a partner in the work our congregation does. As our congregation carries out its work, we seek to be all about Jesus' work. As our special offering begins this month you are asked – as the Lord has blessed you – to consider a gift to support this work. God bless you as you prayerfully consider this opportunity.

# A LOOK AT LUTHER

## BIBLE, CATECHISM, HYMNBOOK

Just like he has done through many believers, God brought about blessings to others through Martin Luther. One of Luther's greatest gifts, especially to the people living at his time, was his translation of the Bible. Oh, there were Bibles before his time, but they were few and the common people could not read them. The translation chiefly in use at that time was in Latin, which only learned people could read. There were also some German and English Bibles, but these were poor translations and hard to understand.

So, with the help of some of his friends, Luther translated the whole Bible out of the original Hebrew and Greek into plain and simple German. As a result, now people who could read that language found Bible reading a pleasure. Many bought Bibles. What Luther did for the German people was soon done by other men in other countries. William Tyndale used Luther's Bible to help him translate the Bible into English. Out of this translation came, in 1611, the English King James Bible.

In 1529 Luther also wrote his Small Catechism. This book has sometimes been called the "Gem of the Reformation." Luther's love for children caused him to write this precious book. He remembered that as a boy he was not taught what a person must know to be saved. When he visited the schools, he was shocked to find that teachers did not know how to teach God's Word. He therefore went to work and wrote a simple explanation of the chief parts of the Christian truth in the form of a catechism with questions and answers. If Luther had done nothing else in his life than write his Catechism, there would still be reason to thank God for Luther's contribution to Christianity. Luther himself studies this Catechism every day as long as he lived.

In the Catholic Church of Luther's day, the worshipers had little chance to sing hymns to God. Luther, however,



wanted the members of his church to be a singing church. He believed that Christians should sing praise to the Lord as part of their church services. But they had no hymns. Luther therefore prepared a hymnbook for them. He collected the few old hymns he could find and translated some from the Latin. He himself wrote thirty-seven hymns. His most famous is "A Mighty Fortress Is Our God." He also encouraged other Christian poets to write hymns for the church. How the people loved to sing these Lutheran hymns! So do we! By means of its hymns the Reformation sang its way into the hearts of many people.

## MEETINGS AND GATHERINGS THIS MONTH

### Ad Hoc Child Protection

Saturday—June 12 @ 9 a.m. in Black River Falls

### Outreach Meeting

Sunday – June 13 @ 11:15 am in Black River Falls

### Elders Meeting

Monday – June 14 @ 6 p.m. in Cataract

### Joint Service & Picnic

Sunday – June 20 @ 10 a.m. in Black River Falls

### Church Council Meeting

Monday—June 28 @ 6 p.m. in Black River Falls

### Concert in the Park

Tuesday—June 29 @ 7 p.m. at Lunda Park Band Shell

## FISH DARTBALL & TAILGATE!

The FiSH group (Faith's Social Harbor) invites adults for an evening of dartball. This is a combination of darts and baseball. Thankfully, there is no running or catching. Ken Diener has hand-crafted our very own official dartball board! We'll play this in the parking lot. As long as we're in the parking lot, let's tailgate! Bring your own meat to grill and a dish to pass if you would like to. We'll provide a hot grill, plates, plasticware, napkins, cups, and lemonade. Experience is NEVER required with any of our activities – come, learn, and have fun! We'll meet Saturday, June 12, from 5:00 to 7:00 p.m. at the BRF building location. This is a great opportunity for you to invite a friend, relative, or coworker. FiSH is our social group geared toward recreational activities for adults, single or married, younger or older.



## 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](http://wels.net) and click on the church locator to find a sister WELS church at which to worship in the area you are at.

## DAILY SUMMER DEVOTIONS

Starting Sunday, June 6, devotions based on Sunday sermons will once again be made available each Sunday. These devotions are set up so that a devotion can be done each day of the week. Some questions are meant to get you to "dig deeper" while others are meant to be at the level of younger children. God bless you as you sit down and study God's Word.



## CHURCH PICNIC

Our annual joint church picnic is fast approaching. This year it will be at our Black River Falls location and will be on Sunday, June 20. Service time will be 10 a.m. Meat, buns, condiments, drinks and chips will be provided that day. If able, members are asked to bring either a salad or dessert. Then, plan to stay for some fun and games after lunch!

## WORSHIP SERVICE TIME CHANGE

Our service times have changed! This summer we have once again flip-flopped our worship service times. Sunday morning worship services are as follows: Cataract – 8 am and Black River Falls 9:45 am. These times will continue through Sunday, September 5.



**FISH**  
**JUNE 12**  
**5-7**  
**BRF**