

<u>May Birthdays</u>	
Chad Goetzka	5/7
Kalleigh Kiesow	5/9
Mark Mueller	5/10
Ethan Bedell	5/15
Owen Goetzka	5/16
Ryanne Rodgers	5/16
Chase Severson	5/16
Grady Severson	5/16
Aspen Bue	5/22
Sophia Neumann	5/23
Macy Johnson	5/23
Isabelle Reetz	5/28
Kirk Goetzka	5/30

<u>May Anniversaries</u>	
Ken and Janeen Folgers	5/1
Matt and Toni Anderson	5/20
Jerry and Jan Eggen	5/20

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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Black River Falls, WI 54615
(mailing address)

N6774 Acorn Ave.
Sparta, WI 54656

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Pastor: Joel Neumann

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, please contact Laura Mueller at the following email address: muellerlaura@hotmail.com or Pastor Neumann either in person or at the following email address: pastorjoelneumann@gmail.com. Newsletter deadline: The submission deadline is the next-to-the-last Sunday of each month.



I NEED MORE...CONFIDENCE

Meet Doug. As he toes the line for the final game of his senior year basketball season, he wonders if his scholarship dream is going to happen.

Meet Kristin. As she graduates from college, she wonders if she's adequate for her new job.

Meet Samantha. As she faces her second round of chemotherapy, she wonders if she's going to live.

Meet Frank. As he says his vows to his wife, he silently wonders if his second marriage is going to last.

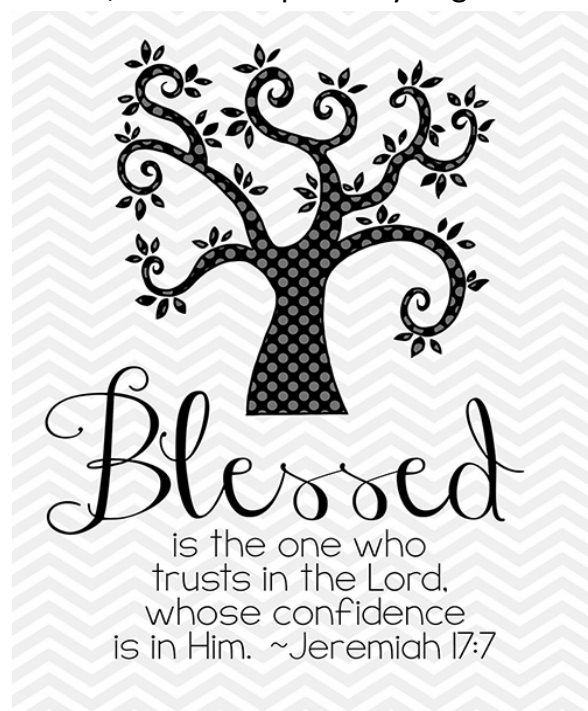
Have you been there? Doug, Kristin, Samantha, Frank, you and I all have one thing in common: we need confidence. Let's face it; there are times in life that it's easy to be filled with doubt. Doug doubted his future. Kristin doubted her abilities. Samantha doubted her treatment. Frank doubted his love.

But there's One whose future, abilities, treatment, and love never fail. That's the true God revealed to us in the Bible. Our confidence to face whatever life throws our way comes from the promises God gives us in his Word. God kept his promise of sending a Savior for everyone. As our Savior, Jesus lived perfectly to give us confidence that his life counts for everyone. He died to make

the payment necessary for our sins to be forgiven, no matter what we've done. He rose again to give us the confidence that one day we will be with him in heaven. And all this is God's free gift by faith in Jesus.

Because of Jesus, when we doubt our future, God reminds us, "I know the plans that I have for you" (Jeremiah 29:11). When we doubt our abilities, he assures us, "I am your God. I will strengthen you and help you" (Isaiah 41:10). When we doubt our treatment plan, he promises, "I am with you always" (Matthew 28:20). When we doubt love, his Word helps us "grasp how wide and long and high and deep is the love of Christ" (Ephesians 3:18). That's the difference only Jesus makes.

Need more confidence? Jesus has what you need.



FAITH EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH, COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES SUMMARY

April 15, 2019

OPENING DEVOTION

- The meeting opened at 6:00 pm with Pastor Neumann leading us in a short devotion “Understanding Law and Gospel – Part 4.”

ATTENDANCE

- Pastor, Garrett Jessie, Dale Jessie, Jerry Kirchman, Dave Spaude, Grady Severson, Brad Rahmlow

ELDER’S REPORT

- Release from membership–Tim Heuer. Motion was moved, seconded, and passed with consensus (MSC)
- Receive into membership – Warren and Joni Timm; Audrey Timm; Ian Timm. MSC

PASTOR’S REPORT

- Pastor presented a statistical report for the month of April
- Pastor is a delegate to Synod Convention this summer. The congregation will cover the \$275 expense for pastor to attend this year’s synod convention. MSC
- Pastor reported some synod/district news
 - There are currently 3 Vacancies in our circuit and about 120 Vacancies in our synod
 - There will be 26 candidates from Wisconsin Lutheran Seminary
 - Pastor reported that there will be a Ministry Conference held in October at Christ, West Salem. This conference is open to everyone within each congregation within our circuit. Its goal is to help and assist congregations in organizing, planning and carrying out evangelism in each local congregation.
 - \$700 was sent to New Beginnings from baby bottle collections (\$625 was collected through the bottles; \$75 was sent from the Ladies Aid)

FINANCIAL REPORT

- Brad presented a financial report showing a net loss of \$4,213.32 through the end of March. MSC to accept financial report for March, 2019
- Brad presented a “Ministry Moment” explaining the way budgeting and offering envelopes will be utilized going forward

SPECIAL REPORTS—OUTREACH

- The Live Tomb will be displayed during holy week. All volunteers are welcome!
- Marriage Enrichment April 27th at 4pm
- Dartball FISH activity May 11th

OLD BUSINESS

- It was decided to hold the October 2019 Mission Festival in Cataract. Pastor will contact Christian Life Resources to see if they are available to come back since the originally planned service in February had been snowed out
- Grace in Action and its ministry will continue to be kept on Old Business so that we can discuss its value and points
- Discussion on where to store blank checks and meeting minutes was tabled until next month
- Security preparations – Jerry is still waiting to hear back from the County Sheriff’s office

*Grace
in Action*

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April 20, 2019

Dear Sisters & Brothers of Faith Lutheran Church,

Thank you for the opportunity to be with you in March and share God’s word as well as information about Grace in Action.

I appreciate the warm welcome you gave me as well as the gracious hospitality of the Brad and Annette Markhardt and their family.

In behalf of Grace in Action I acknowledge and thank you for the generous gift of \$500 to Grace in Action. This will greatly help us in our mission of assisting leaders within Christian ministries with services, tools, and innovative methods.

Should you wish to enlist any of our services, feel free to contact us. We are eager and willing to serve you.

God bless you as you celebrate the resurrection of our Lord Jesus Christ. God be with you as you carry out your mission of making and nurturing disciples of Jesus.

Happy Easter!

In Christ,



**Pastor Don Sutton
Grace in Action**



SPRING CLEANING AT CATARACT

When: Saturday May 18 – 9 a.m.

What: Cleaning of inside and out

Other: A potluck at 12 p.m. is planned after the cleaning is done. Bring a dish to pass!

BIBLE CLASSES & SUNDAY SCHOOL

Sunday morning Bible Class and Sunday School in Black River Falls will continue to meet on May 5, 12.

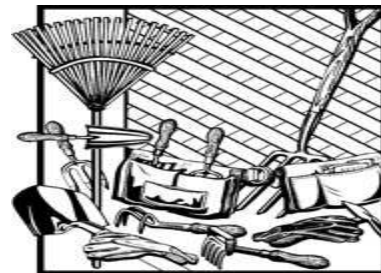


FISH DARTBALL!

The FiSH group (Faith Social Harbor) invites adults for an evening of dartball. This is a combination of darts and baseball. Thankfully, there is no running or catching J. Ken Diener has hand crafted our very own official dartball board! Experience is NEVER required with any of our activities – come, learn and have fun! We'll meet Saturday, May 11, from 6:00 to 8:00 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.

BRF LANDSCAPE BRIGADE

Consider helping the Landscape Brigade on Saturday, May 11, from 8:00-9:00 a.m. This month we will be weeding and working on a drainage way. 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.



MEETINGS AND GROUP GATHERINGS THIS MONTH

Ladies of Faith – Monday, May 13 @ 6 p.m. in Black River Falls

Child Protection Ad Hoc – Saturday, May 11 @ 9 a.m. in Black River Falls

Youth Group – Sunday, May 12 @ 2 p.m. in Black River Falls

Council – Monday, May 20 @ 6 p.m. in Black River Falls

NEW BUSINESS

- After looking over the surveys that had been turned in, it was decided to once again flip-flop summer service times this summer. So, summer church times will be BRF 9:45 CAT 8. This will begin Memorial Day Weekend and continue through Labor Day Weekend.

The meeting adjourned at 8:00 pm with Pastor leading us in the Lord's Prayer

The next Council Meeting will May 20th at 6:30 in BRF .

Recorded by Garrett Jessie

CONGRATULATIONS AND GOD'S BLESSINGS TO...

Jayden Bedell and Zachary Mueller who will be confirmed in their Christian faith on **Sunday, May 19**, in BRF at 8 am.



ASCENSION SERVICE

Thursday, May 30th, at 6:30 p.m. in Cataract.

FROM THE LIBRARY



Our church library located in the Fellowship Hall at the BRF location has a copy of the women's devotion book, *His Days, My Praise*. This daily devotion book was written by women for women. It encourages you to think about God's Word and to apply it to your own life. A suggestion for reading the Bible chronologically is also included. This devotion book can be started at any time since the devotions are numbered not dated.

LWMS SPRING RALLY

The Lutheran Women's Missionary Society Spring Rally will be held Sunday, May 5 at St. John Lutheran Church in Sparta, WI. Registration begins at 1:30 p.m. and the meeting at 2 p.m. The rally will feature Pastor James Buske as he speaks about the Lighthouse Youth Center located in Milwaukee. Read below for more information.

Lighthouse Youth Center (LYC), located in three Milwaukee neighborhoods is a WELS urban outreach mission committed to be "a beacon for Christ to the youth of the community." This non-profit youth center has been created to provide after school programming. Our goal is to equip youth and their families with skills necessary to become self-controlled, responsible members of society.

LYC provides a safe recreational environment where the youth of the community are able to interact with positive Christian role models. We provide tutoring and access to computer workstations. Through collaborative partnerships with nearby schools, we are able to focus on the scholastic needs of individual children and assist them in the most effective way. Community service project opportunities encourage a sense of neighborhood pride. Most importantly, the truths of Scripture are taught, and the love of Christ permeates everything we do.

LYC's after school program operates on Monday through Friday afternoons. Lighthouse is staffed with volunteers from all ages; from congregations and schools all over. LYC provides an excellent opportunity to meet and work with fellow Christians who want to share the life changing name of Jesus!

Pastor James Buske is a 2002 graduate from Wisconsin Lutheran Seminary. He was first assigned to serve as tutor at Luther Preparatory School in Watertown, WI, where he served as pastor, teacher, coach, and dorm supervisor for the 42 boys that live on his floor. After two years, Pastor Buske was reassigned to serve as associate Pastor of Christ the King Lutheran Church in Bremerton, Washington.



Worship Service Time Change

Starting Sunday, May 26, we will once again flip-flop our worship service times for the summer. Therefore, services on the 26th will be:

Cataract—8 am

and

Black River Falls—9:45 am

These times will continue through
Sunday, September 1.



4TH ANNUAL WELS NIGHT AT THE LOGGERS

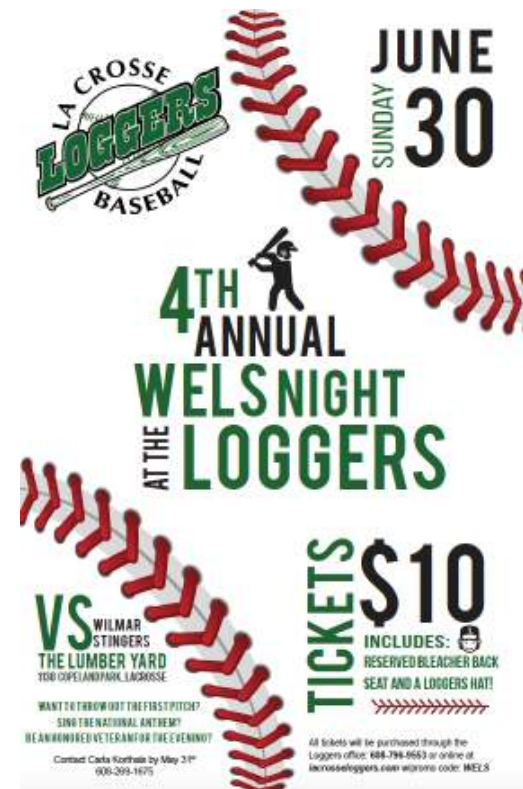
The date this year is Sunday, June 30th. The Loggers will be playing the Wilmar Stingers. Gates open at 4:00 p.m. at Copeland Park in La Crosse, WI for a 5:05 p.m. game time. Ticket price is \$10.00 which includes a reserved bleacher back seat and a Loggers hat! The La Crosse Loggers organization will return \$5.00 of that price to the Friends of Luther as a fundraiser.

All tickets will be purchased through the Logger's office. Their address is 1225 Caledonia St in La Crosse; the phone number is 608-796-9553. You may also order tickets online at lacrosseloggers.com using the promo code WELS. Be aware there is a \$1.75 processing fee per ticket when ordering online.

Be sure to mention you are part of the WELS night to get tickets with our group. For your ticket to be a part of the fundraiser, you must purchase by Friday, June 21st. For the best seating options, order early!

If you would like to throw out the first pitch, sing the National Anthem or be the honored Veteran for the evening, please call Carla Korthals at 608-269-1675 and let her know by May 31st.

If you have any questions, feel free to contact Carla Korthals at 608-269-1675.



WELS NIGHT AT MILLER PARK

Tickets are now on sale for the sixth annual WELS Night at Miller Park. Plan to join thousands of WELS members for the Milwaukee Brewers' game against the San Francisco Giants on Fri., July 12, 2019. Game time is 7:10 p.m.

The Brewers are offering WELS members up to 50 percent off the price of tickets. The pricing is Field Outfield Box, Sections 128-131 for \$21/ticket, Loge Outfield Box, Sections 229-232 for \$17/ticket, or Terrace Reserved, Sections 436-437 for \$9/ticket. All seats are on the third base side. Discounted tickets are now available to purchase online at brewers.com/wels.

Last year more than 2,400 WELS witnessed a dramatic walk-off home run as the Brewers defeated the Rockies in the bottom of the ninth inning. The epic three-run blast topped off a wonderful evening of fun and fellowship for the fifth annual WELS night at Miller Park. "Since several seating sections were filled with members wearing the royal blue WELS Night at Miller Park t-shirts, we have decided to offer the same shirt again this year in youth and adult sizes," says Lee Hitter, WELS Director of Communications.

Shirt orders will be available soon. Visit wels.net/brewers2019 to learn more.

