



Anniversaries

Brad + Annette Markhardt 11/16
Jerry + Nancy Kirchman 11/26
Les + Wendy Mlsna 11/28

Birthdays

Leah Reetz 11/1
Makaela Kiesow 11/8
Laura Goetzka 11/9
Todd Volk 11/10
Rita Selin 11/15
Wyatt Folgers 11/15
Jack Bue 11/22
Nicole Schwartzenberger 11/24
Scott Templeton 11/28
Beverly Zillmer 11/30
Mark Hanson 11/30



N6598 County Highway A
Black River Falls, WI 54615
(mailing address)

N6774 Acorn Ave.
Sparta, WI 54656

Phone: 715-284-0772
Pastor: Joel Neumann

We're on the Web!
www.faithwels.com

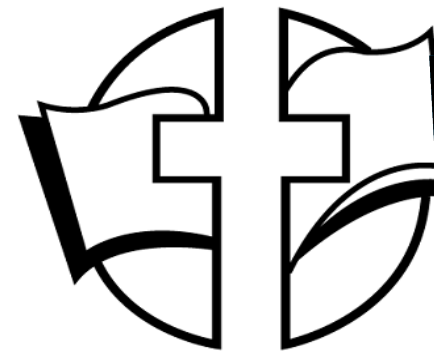
The Messenger is published monthly for the congregation and friends of Faith Ev. Lutheran Church. Its purpose is to provide information regarding all areas of congregational news and to offer enlightening articles.

Anyone wishing to contribute articles, please contact 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.

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.



The Messenger

November 2018

REAL WEALTH

Jesus told this parable: "The ground of a certain rich man produced a good crop . . . he said, ' . . . I will tear down my barns and build bigger ones, and there I will store all my grain and my goods. And I'll say to myself, "You have plenty of good things laid up for many years. Take life easy; eat, drink and be merry." But God said to him, "You fool! This very night your life will be demanded from you. Then who will get what you have prepared for yourself?" This is how it will be with anyone who stores up things for himself but is not rich toward God" (Luke 12:16-21).

"I need money!"

"How much money do you need?"

"Lots! Start with one and keep adding zeros till I say, 'Stop.' "

Did you ever have a conversation like this? At times we dream about being very wealthy. What would we do? Quit our jobs? Buy a new car? Travel?

While it is fun to dream, the reality is that we are richer than most people in the world. Yet we may not feel rich, even though we have almost everything for maintaining a fairly comfortable lifestyle. So why don't we feel rich?

The main reason is because there's something wrong with all of us. We have a sinful nature. It likes to twist things around in our minds so we constantly want more. And when we get more, our sinful nature

still isn't satisfied.

Jesus illustrates this in a story about a farmer who had a bumper crop one year. Instead of giving away the surplus to feed the hungry or to proclaim how generous God had been with him, he thought only of himself. He planned to build bigger barns and take life easy. But soon he died. All his accumulated wealth went to someone else, and he had to face God.

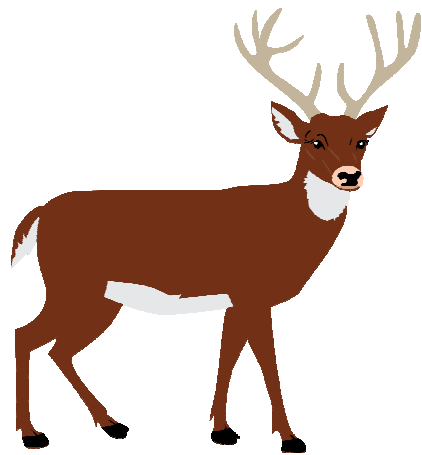
Acquiring a lot of wealth in this world is finally worthless without Jesus. In fact, it's more than just worthless. Allowing the love of money to control our hearts will ultimately lead us away from Jesus to hell. That's because Jesus is our real wealth.

The Bible says, "Though he was rich, yet for your sakes he became poor, so that you through his poverty might become rich" (2 Corinthians 8:9). Jesus, the

eternal Son of God, left heaven and humbled himself to become a man. He bore the punishment of our sin, including the greed that lurks within our sinful nature. The result of his poverty is that we are freely given the riches of forgiveness and life with God.

When we think about our lives, we have so much for which to thank God. Though we may not have all the worldly riches of our dreams, we have real wealth in Jesus!





DEER HUNTER WORSHIP SERVICE

Are you facing that hunting dilemma? You know - the one where you want to hunt but you also want and know you need to sit at the feet of Jesus and his Word. Well guess what, you can do both! We will have a special worship service on **Thursday, November 15, at 6:30 p.m. at our BRF church building** to remove the opening weekend/Sunday worship obstacle. We want God to be first in our lives. Here is a chance to do just that and still enjoy the blessings of his creation at the same time.

CHILDREN'S CHRISTMAS EVE PRACTICE

Starting Sunday, December 2 and going through Sunday, December 23, the children in Black River Falls will be practicing for the Christmas Eve service during the regular Sunday School/Bible Class hour. There will be no Bible Study during this time.



Sparta Food Pantry

Faith in Cataract will be putting out a box for the Sparta Food Pantry again this year. During the month of November you can donate non-perishables to help those in need in the Sparta area. The box will be located under the coat rack in the entry area.



THANKSGIVING WORSHIP

"God invites us to praise him. God's goodness motivates us to praise him. For these reasons God's people love to praise him with songs. Since the beginning of creation God's angels have been singing his praises in heaven (Job 38:7). Throughout history God's people have been singing his praises on earth" (People's Bible: Psalms). Some of the most beautiful songs of praise can be found in the book of Psalms. This Thanksgiving, we will build our service around some of the Psalms in a Thanksgiving Service of Psalms. That service will be held at our Cataract location on November 21st, at 6:30 p.m. Following the service we will have a pie and ice cream social. Mark the date on your calendar and bring your family!

NOVEMBER 21 • 6:30 PM
CATARACT LOCATION



New Bible Class

"...you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth." (Acts 1:8)

Did you know that you have been called by God to be his witness?

Do you feel comfortable talking to people about Jesus?

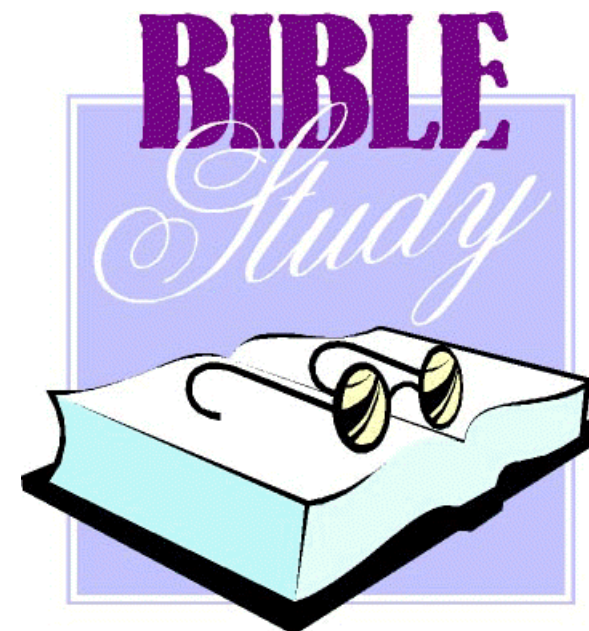
Do you sometimes find yourself wondering what God wants you to do?

Would you like some help in becoming a better witness?

Whether you answered 'yes' or 'no' to the questions above, this New Bible Class is for you.

Based upon the new movie - *"To the Ends of the Earth"* - this Bible Study is meant to help participants understand the purpose and power of sharing the gospel around the globe—beginning with people nearby. We will study how to connect different types of people to the central importance of Jesus' story. Although we will use the movie as a starting point for this

study, we will see that our study will really be about God's powerful activity in bringing even the most unlikely people to faith in him.



CLASSES BEGIN

Black River Falls - Wednesday, November 7 @ 7 pm
Cataract - TBD

FAITH EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH COUNCIL

MEETING MINUTES SUMMARY

October 15, 2018

OPENING DEVOTION

- The meeting opened at 6:15p.m. with Pastor Neumann leading us in a short devotion from Mark 10:17-27.

ATTENDANCE

- Pastor Neumann, Garrett Jessie, Jerry Kirchman, Brad Rahmlow, Dale Jessie, Cody Heller, Grady Severson, Brad Markhardt

PASTOR'S REPORT

- Pastor distributed his monthly statistics report and upcoming events. He reported concerning...
 - Bible Class
 - The Sunday morning and Wednesday Evening Bible Study on God's Providence is winding down. A new one will be starting titled "To the Ends of the Earth." Pastor encouraged the council to check their schedules and do all they can to attend Bible Study. In this way not only will they feed their faith but will also lead by example in attending.
 - The Saturday morning Bible Study—"2000 Demons: No Match for My Savior" has been well received. He reported that there are 29 people participating; 17 of those have attended at least once at class. The other 12 are doing the study on their own.
 - He reported that he does not currently have anyone in a Bible Information Class. He is working on two prospects and Rudy J. is hoping to start a class with residents at RJ's soon.
 - The next Marriage Enrichment event is coming up—it will be on Friday, November 2 at 6 p.m. The topic of discussion will be "Removing Barriers to Marriage and Oneness"
 - Worship
 - The special Deer Hunter's Worship service will be held in Black River Falls on Thursday, November 15 at 6:30 p.m..
 - Youth Group
 - Pastor reported that the Youth Group, with his help, has decided on 3 "fun" events and 2 "service" projects for the year. The "fun" events will be an outing to Action City in Eau Claire; a lock-in at church; and a movie/drive-in movie. Pastor asked if the council would approve for the church to cover the cost of the meal for the youth for each of these events. A motion was made to have one meal for each event covered by the congregation. The motion was seconded and confirmed.
 - The 2 "service" projects are to do a food pantry/bags for those in need and a youth Sunday. Other "smaller" items may come up throughout the year.
 - Luther High
 - Pastor reported that the dedication service of the new construction at Luther High will take place on Sunday, October 21, at 2 pm
 - He reported that the current enrollment is: Current Total 240 (9=66, 10=65, 11=59, 12=50) includes 14 Wisconsin Parental Choice students (all WELS).



Marriage Enrichment Event

Date: November 2
Time: 6-7 p.m.
Place: Black River Falls

Subject: Removing Barriers to Marriage & Oneness

Baby-sitting provided for the 6-7 pm study in God's Word as well as the 8-9 pm date night!



ATTENTION BAKERS!

Do you love to bake and then find yourself with too many cookies, candies, cakes, or other confections?

Did you see the theme on the front of our recent bulletin, "Serve As You Have Been Served"?

How often have you enjoyed the delicious Sunday morning treats after worship service and before adult Bible class and Sunday school?

If you have a penchant for baking, a servant's heart, and love to partake of the bountiful baked goods God continuously supplies us with, we could use your gifts and talents.

If you would like to bake some treats and bring them to church to be used for Sunday morning, Thank You. We take all kinds. We take all amounts. Just place them in containers that can be placed in the freezer, mark the container with your name (to get your container back) the contents and the date baked, and place in the freezer for use by our wonderful and gracious Sunday morning treat ladies.

Don't bake, yet want to contribute? Many of the local bakeries have wonderful selections that we have used in the past also. Or how about some of those yummy store bought cookies and place those in the cupboard! We take all kinds. We take all amounts.

If you have any questions, please speak with Kari Kellen.

FROM THE LIBRARY

The Christian Family section of our church library located in the Fellowship Hall at the BRF location has 3 books by Pearl Rainwater.

Grandma Speaks is a collection of 45 real life situations with Bible passages showing that the things that happen to you everyday are in God's control. The 40 true stories in *Grandma's Voice* will make you notice God's hand in his creation and the power of his love in your life. In *Grandma Remembers*, Pearl Rainwater applies biblical principles to the kinds of things that happen in your busy days. She reflects on the things in life that don't change and that shouldn't change and the one thing that never changes, 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



- 2018-19 Tuition Costs

	1 st Child	2 nd Child	3 rd Child
Association Student	\$7,076	\$5,137	\$3,196
Non-Association Student	\$8,548	\$6,608	\$4,668

- Miscellaneous
 - Pastor reported that 3 men from the congregation are going to the Men of the Word Conference in Rochester, MN on Saturday, October 27. The congregation covered these costs
 - Pastor reported that he has successfully secured 2 of the 3 para-synodical organizations for presentations at Faith. One for January 27, 2019 (Institutional/Prison Ministry) and one for February 24, 2019 (Christian Life Resources.) The council had made the decision to have just one service on these Sunday’s so that everyone would be able to be present for the presentation; a potluck will follow the presentation; and the location to host the service will rotate. January and March will be in Black River Falls and February will be in Cataract. That service will be at 9:30 a.m. with Bible Class/Sunday School following at 10:45. Potluck will begin around 12.

FINANCIAL REPORT

- Cody presented a financial report showing a net gain of \$1,509.60 through the end of September. (*At the time of this printing, the report was corrected by the treasurer to reflect a net loss—throughout the entire year—of \$1,580.40)

SPECIAL REPORTS

- Nov. 13th, 6:30pm will be a joint meeting between Outreach and Council to discuss and review our congregation’s vision timeline

NEW BUSINESS

- Discussion on the EHV Bible translation was held by Pastor. This is the translation that we have been primarily been using for our lessons on Sunday morning. Northwestern Publishing House will be making this translation available for purchase this summer. Discussion was had as to whether or not this is the translation we would like to use in Sunday School and in Bible’s given to confirmation students and new members. It was moved and supported and confirmed to purchase 10 EHV Bibles as a preorder to have on hand for use and to be handed out as necessary.
- Discussion was had on the Capital Improvement Fund and the Budget after the Faith Alive Pledge ends (12/18).

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 8:07 p.m. with Pastor leading us in the Lord’s Prayer.

Recorded by Brad Rahmlow



SATURDAY, Nov 17
9-11 BRF



Advent Social
Sunday December 2 , 2 pm
BRF

Advent Social is an opportunity for women of all ages to set aside the hustle and bustle of holiday preparation and focus their minds and hearts on the birth of Christ. It is a beautiful time filled with Scripture readings, narration, prayer, songs of praise and Christian fellowship.

Advent is a time for us to prepare our hearts for Jesus’ coming. We want our focus to be on Jesus throughout this season, but all too often it gets caught up with the preparations in our homes, churches or communities.

Advent Social this year is based on the fourth and final evangelism movie from WELS titled, “To the Ends of the Earth.” This movie tells the story of the apostle Paul’s work in Philippi. We’ll ask and answer the question, “Who are you?” as told through the story of Lydia, a seller of fine purple cloth and a believer in the one

Your children are invited for our 4th annual Christmas Crafts for kids.

They will enjoy Christmas cookies, a Christmas devotion, and several fun Christmas-themed craft stations. It will be held at Faith Lutheran Church, Black River Falls, on Saturday November 17 from 9-11 a.m.

true God.

Advent Social at Faith Lutheran Church, our 6th year. You are invited! Feel free to invite a friend or family member, acquaintance or neighbor. Set aside the date and time, **Sunday, December 2, 2:00 p.m. at our Black River Falls location.**

After the devotion, those interested may participate in a homemade cookie / candy etc. exchange. If you choose to participate in the exchange please bring 5 dozen homemade treats to share, the recipe, and a container to take your treats home in! We will make copies of all the recipes at church. Please note that if you do not wish to be part of the treat exchange, you are still welcome to come and enjoy the devotion, fellowship and cookie samples!

