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

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.

MEETINGS & GATHERINGS THIS MONTH

Ladies Aid

Thursday—September 5 @ 12:30 p.m. in Cataract

Ladies of Faith

Monday—September 9 @ 6 p.m. in Black River Falls

Elders Meeting

Tuesday—September 10 @ 6:30 p.m. in Black River Falls

Child Protection Ad Hoc Meeting

Saturday—September 14 @ 10:30 a.m. in Black River Falls

FiSH Scavenger Hunt

Saturday—September 14 @ 6 p.m. in Black River Falls

Church Council Meeting

Monday—September 16 @ 6:30 p.m. in Black River Falls

Outreach Meeting

Sunday—September 22 @ 12:30 p.m. in Black River Falls

Youth Group

Sunday—September 29 @ 2 p.m. in Black River Falls

Faith Teachers Meeting

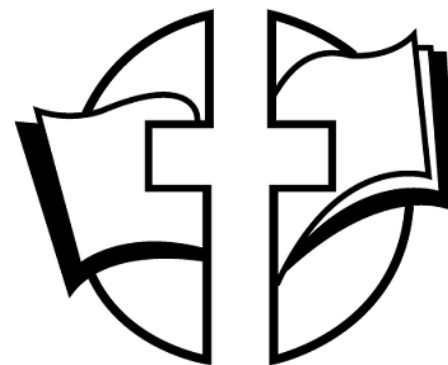
Sunday—September 29 @ 6 p.m. in Black River Falls

*Whatever you do,
work at it with all
your heart, as
working for the Lord,
not for men.
Colossians 3:23*

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: muellerlaura@hotmail.com or Pastor Neumann: pastorjoelneumann@gmail.com

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



The Messenger

The Messenger

September 2019

I Need More...Knowledge

Inside this issue:

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Special points of interest:

- * Men of the Word Conference
- * Fellowship Golf Scramble
- * Scavenger Hunt

The Church of Scientology teaches that people are basically good, that their capabilities are unlimited, and those capabilities can be realized. People can also achieve new, higher states of awareness and ability. *Scientology* claims that the secrets to this higher knowledge can only be found in their church through a process they call "auditing."

Seems strange? But honestly, a cultic religion that encourages you to look within yourself for more knowledge can really satisfy an itch. Who doesn't feel they need more knowledge? And how about being able to pat yourself on the back for pursuing it and supposedly finding that knowledge within yourself? That's pretty appealing to the human heart.

But God's Word sounds much different than L. Ron Hubbard, who authored the book that has

become *Scientology's* bible. God says people are not basically good, that people's natural capabilities are limited to sinning and rebelling against God. As a result, God says all people are the same: "There is no one who understands, no one who seeks God...The way of peace they do not know" (Romans 3:11,17).

God is right! Not L. Ron Hubbard! Need proof? Think about Adam and Eve when they pursued more knowledge on their own apart from God. They rejected God's Word and sinned. Look at what their own inner pursuit of knowledge got them and us! A world infected by sin so badly that everyone eventually dies.

Jesus knows we all lack knowledge, and he wants to fill that void. He does so not by telling us to find it inside ourselves, but by telling us to look outside ourselves. We find knowledge in the

Bible. Through his Word, God makes us wise; he gives us insight and understanding. (See Psalm 119:98-100.) That's because God's Word gives us knowledge that we can't find or discover anywhere else.

The Bible tells about Jesus. It tells how wide, long, high, and deep Jesus' love is for people. That love drove Jesus to come to this world, bear the sin of every person, die on a cross, and suffer the eternal punishment for all sins. That's love—love so amazing that God declares that your sins are forgiven because of Jesus. That's love—love so beyond understanding that Jesus, the righteous one, should die for the unrighteous. But he did! That's why the apostle Paul says that "this love surpasses knowledge" (Ephesians 3:19). In Jesus' love for you, you have everything you truly need to know, both now and forever.

Council Meeting Summary

Faith Lutheran Church Council Meeting Minutes *Summary*
August 12, 2019

CALL TO ORDER

- ♦ The meeting opened at 6:05 pm with Pastor Neumann leading us in a short devotion.
- ♦ Attendance: Pastor Neumann, Garrett Jessie, Dale Jessie, Jerry Kirchman, Scott Templeton, Grady Severson, Brad Rahmlow

ELDER’S REPORT

- ♦ The elders presented to the council the idea of having a “deaconess” as part of the Elder’s committee. The reason behind the idea is so that a woman could accompany Pastor when visiting a single woman (whether a visitor or member), as well as having a woman calling women to offer worship encouragement. A motion was made and the recommendation was accepted.
- ♦ The elders plan to make use of the Synod’s “Welcome Home” material. However, it will be pushed back until next year to be able to put a full effort into the event.
- ♦ A Delinquent Member Policy was presented and adopted for use for the Elder’s Committee. Moved. Seconded. Confirmed (MSC)

PASTOR’S REPORT

- ♦ Pastor presented a statistical report for the month of July
- ♦ Pastor encouraged members of the council to attend the Ministry Conference on October 12th
- ♦ The church’s funds need to be cleaned up and audited by the end of the year. We will reach out to other area churches for best practices
- ♦ Ad Hoc committee is continuing to meet to develop a policy for child protection protocol

FINANCIAL REPORT

- ♦ Brad presented a financial report showing a net gain of \$1,548.37 through the end of July. MSC to accept financial report for July, 2019
- ♦ Conversation was had about the gift giving policy. Discussion was had and

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BIRTHDAYS

Joni Timm	9/1
Noah Hanson	9/7
Derek Southwood	9/8
Joie Bacon	9/11
Jon Mlsna	9/18
Channing Manske	9/18
Rudy Jeseritz	9/19



Les Mlsna	9/20
Majesta Heller	9/23
Danielle Pryor	9/28
Jan Eggen	9/28
Mary Christie	9/29

ANNIVERSARIES

Jeff + Penny Nicolai	9/7
Dale + Emily Timm	9/14
Danielle + Jesse Pryor	9/26



Golf Outing—4 person scramble

An opportunity to do “life” together with our church family is being planned for the afternoon of Sunday, September 15.

If you enjoy golfing, we are putting together an outing at Skyline Golf Course in Black River Falls.

The cost will be \$22 per person for 9 holes of golf with a cart.

We plan to do a four person scramble.

If interested, please sign up in the gathering area.



When was the last time you reviewed the basic teachings of the Bible and how those teachings applied to your life? Do you have

questions about Communion, Baptism, prayer, marriage, money, parenting, or death? This class covers each of those topics, plus much more.

This class is for anyone and everyone. It is an introduction to the Christian faith for those who have not been confirmed or would like to

Bible Information Class

join Faith, as well as a review for those who have.

This class begins Thursday, September 19, at 7 p.m. in Black River Falls

Keep an eye on the bulletin for the latest information.



TIME CHANGE

The summer is giving way to fall, and with that change comes a change to our regular worship service times. Starting Sunday, September 8, our worship service times will be as follows:

8 a.m. – Black River Falls
9:45 a.m. – Cataract.

GO HUNTING WITH FISH!

Invite your friends to a scavenger hunt on **Saturday, September 14**, in Black River Falls! Put together a team of 2-4 people, or come as a single and teams will be created. Church doors open at 5:30 pm to register teams, with the hunt starting at 6 pm. Find as many of the objects on the list as you can around Black River Falls. Treats will be served while the scores are tallied. Day-care will be provided. FiSH is a social group geared toward recreational activities for adults, single or married, younger or older. For more information contact Brad or Annette Markhardt.



CENTRAL AFRICA MEDICAL MISSION
LUTHERAN MOBILE MEDICAL CLINIC - MALAWI
 August 2019

“And if anyone gives even a cup of cold water to one of these little ones who is my disciple, truly I tell you, that person will certainly not lose their reward”

Matthew 10:42

Back in biblical times, the Romans it must be said, were a pretty clever lot. They understood the necessity for providing clean water and sanitation as a means of maintaining public health and limiting the spread of disease. They constructed aqueducts throughout the Empire, to bring water from outside sources into cities and towns. Aqueduct water supplied public baths, latrines, fountains, and private households.

Today, reliable clean water in American cities is a part of our infrastructure that is pretty much taken for granted. When people turn on a faucet, little if any thought is given to where the water came from let alone some of the processes such as flocculation, sedimentation, filtration and chlorination that make water fit for human consumption.

It is much the same in African cities such as Lilongwe and Lusaka - although it is recommended to boil and filter water before drinking it, or even buy bottled water. However, in the rural areas it is a different story. Out in the rural villages people rely on boreholes (or wells) which typically operate by the use of a hand pump. If a borehole is not available people are forced to use streams and rivers as a means of water supply and personal hygiene. In water resource circles there is a classic photograph used that shows a river with cows and other animals standing upstream in the river, a short distance downstream people are standing in the river washing clothes, then further downstream women are collecting drinking water. The point of the photograph is to show how easily waterborne diseases can be communicated and how important clean water is to good public health.

Understanding that correlation between clean water and public health, some years ago CAMM constructed boreholes at three of our clinic sites in Malawi – Msambo, Suzi and Mwalaulomwe. A borehole was drilled at Thunga Village, but they were unable to find water. Over time the boreholes at Suzi and Mwalaulomwe have failed. This may be because of mechanical issues with the pump or because the water table has dropped. The borehole at Msambo is still operating effectively. Knowing that our clinics provide for the majority of the health needs in the villages we serve, CAMMC applied to Christian Aid and Relief and was granted funds to repair or re-drill our boreholes at Suzi and Mwalaulomwe. We will also service and test the borehole at Msambo. We plan to have the work finished before the rainy season begins in December.

“Jesus answered, “Everyone who drinks this water will be thirsty again, but whoever drinks the water I give them will never thirst. Indeed, the water I give them will become in them a spring of water welling up to eternal life.” John 4:13-14

Your brother in Christ
 Gary Evans



it was decided that this policy will be reviewed and published annually.

SPECIAL REPORTS

Outreach Committee

- ♦ Council approved the use of 3 wooden crosses to compliment the live tomb display at our BRF location

Property Committee

- ♦ A non-functioning gas line will be removed from the grounds at the BRF location
- ♦ The failed crack sealant in the parking lots at both locations has been repaired
- ♦ A new gully has been washed into the lawn at the BRF location. The property committee will gather quotes for differing levels of repair
- ♦ A competing quote for the church's insurance policy was presented. It was decided to change to Brotherhood Mutual pending there is a savings when combining the premium difference and the refund from the premium already paid to Church Mutual. MSC

OLD BUSINESS

Jerry gave an update on church security

NEW BUSINESS

- ♦ St. Paul's Church in Bangor asked Pastor Neumann if he would be willing and able to preach for their Mission Fest on September 29. The focus will be on Prison Ministry. The Council gave permission for Pastor to fulfill this request and Pastor will ask his brother to preach in his stead for a stipend of \$250
- ♦ Three Sunday's of Stewardship focus will take place on the final 3 Sundays of October. The worship services will be shortened to allow for a short bible study during the normal service time.

Adjournment – The meeting adjourned at 8:30 pm with Pastor leading us in the Lord's Prayer.

The next Council Meeting will be held September 16th at 6:30 in BRF.

Recorded by Garrett Jessie

GOOD STEWARD RESALE SHOP

Good Steward Resale Shop—located at 1930 Rose Street in La Crosse—is looking for more volunteers at the present time. We have a variety of tasks which use many different skills and talents. Working at Good Steward is a good way to serve one another in love, to meet and work with fellow Christians, and to support Christian education in our area.

At the present time Good Steward is also accepting applications for Store Coordinators, which is a paid position. The Store Coordinator position requires leadership, organizational skills, the ability to communicate and train others, and the exercising of good judgement. The work amounts to about 24 hours per week. A job description and application form may be obtained at the Good Steward Resale Shop or by calling 608-784-5035. More information on Good Steward can be found at <http://www.lutherhigh.org/advancement/good-steward-resale-shop>

STARTING THIS MONTH

CHOIR



Have you ever considered serving the Lord by using your musical gifts as a member of our choir? A new choir season starts September 4. We meet on Wednesday's at 6:15 p.m. New members are always welcome.



LADIES GROUPS

Ladies Aid—Cataract

The Ladies Aid will have their first meeting on Thursday, September 5 at 12:30 p.m. in Cataract. All ladies who are members of Faith are welcome to attend. They will start with a potluck lunch that day, so bring a dish to pass.

Ladies of Faith—Black River Falls

Ladies of Faith will have their first meeting September 9 from 6 to 8 pm. All women are invited! We will be having Papa Murphy's pizza and salad. Lemonade and water will be provided. We ask everyone to please bring some money to help pay for the meal. You may also bring your own soda if you'd prefer it. Hope to see you there!

CONFIRMATION

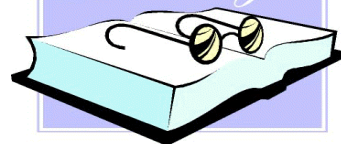
Confirmation will begin for all 6th-8th grade children on Wednesday, September 4th.



SUNDAY SCHOOL

Sunday School for Pre-school—6th grade begins Sunday, September 8 at 9:15 a.m. in Black River Falls.

BIBLE



BIBLE CLASSES

Two separate Bible Classes offered at 3 different times. Take a look and plan to attend!

Justification: The Foundation and Reason for Witnessing

“Why doesn’t your church join together with other churches?” “It seems to me that churches are only interested in money.” “My children can make up their own minds about religion when they are old enough.” Have you ever heard something like this when trying to share Jesus with someone? But do these remarks or the challenge of sharing Christ with others free us from Jesus’ call to share the good news? No!

Set aside time for this Bible Class to learn: what we witness; why we witness; and how to answer objections people throw at us when we witness.

Starting in Black River Falls on Wednesday, September 4 @ 7 p.m.

Starting in Cataract on Sunday, September 8 @ 11 a.m.

ADULT CHRIST LIGHT LESSONS

Christ Light is centered on Christ and grounded in God's Word and serves as an excellent way for adults to visit or revisit Old and New Testament Bible stories in group Bible study. These lessons correspond with those offered during the Sunday School Year, so parents of Sunday School kids can discuss lessons during the week at home. **Starting in Black River Falls on Sunday, September 8 @ 9:15 a.m.**

FROM THE LIBRARY

Do you have questions about infant baptism? Checkout the book, *Baptized into God's Family - Doctrine of Infant Baptism for Today* by Andrew Das. You will find it in the Bible Aids section of our church library located in the Fellowship Hall at our BRF location. This book presents infant baptism thoroughly and practically. It will help with your personal understanding of infant baptism and your ability to defend the sacrament.

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.



2019 MEN OF HIS WORD CONFERENCE

Is your house built on the rock or on the sand? Will your house survive the torrential storms of life or will it wash away when the waves of life come crashing in? The world attacks our Christian values from every direction on a daily basis. To counter these attacks, the MOHW Conference provides opportunities and resources for men to grow spiritually, using God’s Word to empower and equip men to carry out their God-given mission in their homes, churches, communities and the world. This year’s theme is “BUILT ON THE ROCK.”

Whether you attend for the keynote speaker (*Jeremy Mattek, Christian Life Pastor at Immanuel Lutheran in Greenville, WI, and a contributor for Time of Grace Ministries*), the relevant, thought-provoking breakout sessions (*12 to choose from*), or the worship experience with 300 other men (with *Koine’, the worship band*), God’s Word will speak to you.

The 5th Annual MOHW Conference will be held at the Mayo Civic Center in Downtown Rochester MN on Saturday, October 26th, 2019. Additional details and online registration are available at www.menofhisword.org for the first 300 men. Adult registration fee is \$50 and youth registration fee is \$30 – These rates increase to \$60 for adults and \$40 for youth after October 13th. Please join us for a day of fellowship in God’s Word that you will not soon forget!