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Dates at a Glance

- ♦ **March 8, 2026**
Daylight Savings Time Begins
- ♦ **March 17, 2026**
St. Patrick's Day
- ♦ **March 20, 2026**
First Day of Spring
- ♦ **March 29, 2026**
Palm Sunday

Office hours for
Faith Lutheran Church:
Tues. & Thurs.

10AM—2PM

Incase of Pastoral
Emergencies Pastor Elise
can be reached at
(906) 275-4410

Or by email at
pastorelisehynek@gmail.com

Letter from Pastor Elise March 2026

The Winter Olympics were this year, occurring over the start of Lent. One of the stories that captivated me, and many people, was the story of Alysa Liu. For those of you who didn't follow her story, she was a very talented child figure skater, becoming an Olympian at age 16. People were excited to see what she would achieve as she aged into adulthood and had more training. So it shocked the figure skating world, when this young, talented athlete did the unexpected and retired at her peak, soon after her Olympic premiere.

According to her coaches, peers, history, the only way to be a great figure skater was to give your all to look, act, eat, train, and perform a certain way for the sport, but, to Alysa, giving her all to figure skating meant giving up much of who she was, someone she didn't know because the intensity of elite sport prevented her from finding out. So she left the sport completely to discover what else life has to offer, and particularly, who she was.

Two years, after retiring, Alysa did the unexpected again, and came back. This time, she had a condition: no one would dictate how she would look, act, eat, train, or perform, and she would be allowed to do something she was told was impossible in the sport: to bring her whole self, even the parts she told didn't belong, to the sport she loved. Her coaches told her it was impossible for someone to step away from elite figure skating and come back, but, as Alysa shared in her Olympic interviews, she didn't care how well she did in the competition. She wanted to enjoy her performance and have the audience enjoy it as well.

The result was one of the most relaxed, joy filled, spectacular performances the sport has seen at the Olympic level. Alysa enjoyed her performance, and the audience was captivated by it. She achieved her goal, and she happened to win the gold medal in the process.

I think about Alysa's story, and I can't help but think about Lent.

Lent is a season when we ponder about how God gave all of God's self for us. Not just on the cross, but in Jesus's ministry as well. Throughout the gospels, we hear about how Jesus doesn't hold back who he is in order to achieve his goal: to teach and show us that God is with us. Again and again, he shows us how God goes all in for the sake of the world, and again and again, Jesus invites us to join him.

Lent is a time to ponder Jesus's invitation to enter more fully into the promises of God. This can lead to people thinking that they aren't good enough or that they have to fundamentally change who they are. Jesus doesn't expect us to be a specific way in order to accept his invitation. Jesus knows that each of us is different, and that when we bring our full selves, we experience the love of God and live into the love of God with a fullness not otherwise possible. Jesus knows that the gifts God has given to us aids us to bring our full selves into our wonder, trust, and response to God's greatness and willingness to go all in for us.



Worship
SCHEDULE

Join us Sunday's at 10:30AM

You can watch live on Facebook

*We begin with organ music at 10:20am.

<https://www.facebook.com/FaithLC1966>

Faith's News

Lenten Devotions

We will be holding 5 weeks of Lenten Devotions on Wednesday evenings starting **February 25th to April 25th** with a soup supper at 5PM followed by the devotion at 6PM

Calling all singers! If you're interested in joining the **Hiawathaland Community Chorus**, practices begin on **March 9th** from 6:30-8pm at Rudyard Christian Reformed Church.

You can contact Dave Erfourth for more information.

Safety & Security training for all churches in Chippewa County

LSSU Cisler Center

March 19, 2026

2pm—5pm

If any congregation members are interested in attending, please contact the office to us know as soon as possible. Limited spots are available.

EASTER LILIES

IF YOU WOULD LIKE TO PURCHASE EASTER LILIES TO BE DISPLAYED ON THE ALTAR IN HONOR OR MEMORY OF A LOVED ONE, THERE WILL BE A SIGN-UP SHEET IN THE NARTHEX.

Financial Statement

	Jan-26	Budget	Net Activity Over (Under) Budget	Last Year Month of January 2026	Jan-26 Year-to-Date Actual	Jan-26 Year-to-Date Budget	Net Activity Over (Under) Budget	Last Year January 2025 Year-to-Date
General Fund Revenue	\$ 13,466.00	\$ 10,793.00	\$ 2,673.00	\$ 10,835.00	\$ 13,466.00	\$ 10,793.00	\$ 2,673.00	\$ 10,835.00
Expenses	\$ 8,013.15	\$ 7,470.00	\$ 543.15	\$ 13,070.08	\$ 8,013.15	\$ 7,470.00	\$ 543.15	\$ 13,070.08
Operating Revenue								
Over (Under) Expenses	\$ 5,452.85	\$ 3,323.00	\$ 2,129.85	\$ (2,235.08)	\$ 5,452.85	\$ 3,323.00	\$ 2,129.85	\$ (2,235.08)
Total Other Non Operating Revenue	\$ 2,733.16	\$ -	\$ 2,733.16	\$ (7,054.88)	\$ 2,733.16	\$ -	\$ 2,733.16	\$ (7,054.88)
Other Non Operating Expenditures		\$ -	\$ -			\$ -	\$ -	
Balance with Non operating	\$ 8,186.01	\$ 3,323.00	\$ 4,863.01	\$ (9,289.96)	\$ 8,186.01	\$ 3,323.00	\$ 4,863.01	\$ (9,289.96)

Faith Lutheran Church Council Meeting January 20, 2026

The meeting was called to order by President Cathy Tibbett at 10:40AM.

Members Present: Pastor Elise, Cathy Tibbett, Wayne Olsen, Kathy Flickinger, Ben Deatrick, Sandy Lawson via telephone.

Member Absent: Dennis Brindley, Cynthia Wright, Ken Randall, all excused.

Devotion: January: Pastor Elise February: Ken Randall

Future Council Meeting: February 17, 2026.

Minutes: Ben Deatrick made a motion to accept November 11, 2025 council minutes.

Kathy Flickinger seconded. Motion passed.

Old Business:

A: The AED has been ordered and waiting for it to be delivered.

B: The Annual Congregational Meeting will be February 15, 2026 following church service.

C: Non-profit Corporation. Wayne is looking for the Faiths Corporation papers

D: QTC requesting the use of 2 rooms at Faith on February 11, 2026.

New Business:

A: Wayne Olsen made a motion to increase the salary of the Office Secretary. Cathy Tibbett second. Motion passed.

B: Sandy Lawson made a motion that any pulpit supply who donates their salary and travel expenses back to Faith that those funds be donated to the NGLS Seminary Fund. Additionally the remaining \$153.00 in the 2025 Endowment disbursement be included in the first donation.

Wayne Olsen seconded. Motion passed.

C: Fortune Lake 2026 bulletins are now available. Financial support for registration fees to church families will be offered.

D: Chippewa County Sheriff Department will be offering Safety and Security Training at LSSU Cisler Center March 19, 2026 2PM—5PM.

E: The Constitution Committee will be meeting in near future to update Faiths Constitution.

F: Catherine Tibbett made a motion that QTC will rent 2 rooms per month at Faith, dates to be determined each month. Kathy Flickinger seconded. Motion passed.

G: A question of having raised gardens on church property was discussed. More information needs to be presented.

H: Girl Scout Troop 5154 requested the use of the Fellowship Hall on February 7, 2026 than once a month with dates to be requested. Ben Deatrick made a motion to accept the request.

Kathy Flickinger seconded. Motion passed.

Pastors Report: Pastor Elise gave her Pastors report for November 11-January 19

Committee Reports:

Campus Ministry: On Pause.

Christian Education: On Pause.

Come to the Table: On Pause.

Endowment: \$153.00 still available.

Fellowship: Gingerbread or sugar cookies were decorated on December 14 and 22. Dave Erfourth donated the funds for this event. After Christmas Eve Service, an assortment of Sweets, cheese, crackers and sausage were available for everyone to enjoy. On February 2 After church service Chili and vegetable soup will be served followed by everyone playing Bingo. Church members are asked to bring a dessert and several wrapped Bingo wins.

Finance: Wayne Olsen presented the December financial report. Thank you to WELCA for the \$1000.00 donation to defray cost of the church's insurance. Snow plowing cost so far this winter is \$1500.00. Revenue is down.

Membership: No report.

Memorial: There is a hump in the walkway of the Memorial Garden that needs to be taken care of this year as frost or tree roots have distributed several pavers.

Outreach: No Report.

Property: Men's bathroom needs some repairs. New paper towel holders should be replaced in the unisex and men's bathroom.

Staff Support: No Report.

Stewardship: No Report.

WELCA: Monthly meeting was held on January 7, 2026. A donation of \$1000.00 was made to Faith to help cover the church's insurance cost. The Synod WELCA Organization. received a donation of \$150.00. There will not be a February meeting as Bible Study cannot be held. Next meeting is March 4, 2026.

Worship and Music: Music selected up to the end of February 2026. Pulpit supply will be decided for February. Ash Wednesday Service is February 18, 2026 at 7:00PM. During Lent starting Wednesday, February 25th, for 5 weeks soup supper will be 5PM followed by Holden Service 6-6:30PM. Choir practice at 6:30PM

Wayne Olsen made a motion to accept the committee reports including the Pastors Report and Financial Report. Kathy Flickinger seconded. Motion passed.

The meeting was adjourned at 1:00PM with the Lord's Prayer.

Respectfully submitted,

Sandy Lawson, Council Secretary

THE PATHFINDER is the monthly
Newsletter of the Evangelical Lutheran Church
in America community at:
Faith Lutheran Church, 1600 Park Street,
Sault Ste. Marie, Michigan. (906) 632-7246

The deadline for the Pathfinder is the 15th of each
month. Please send articles, comment, news items c/o
Pathfinder Editor, 1600 Park St. Sault Ste. Marie, MI
49783

Or e-mail to faithlutheranchurchssm@gmail.com

Church Office: Lakeisha Richards
Congregational Council: David Bean, Kathy Flickinger,
Sandy Lawson, Wayne Olsen, Dennis Brindley, Ken
Randall, Ann Bean, and Karla Webb

Faith Lutheran Church is a
member congregation of the Northern Great
Lakes Synod of the Evangelical Lutheran
Church in America.

Synod website: nglsynod.org
Denomination website: elca.org

Online giving is here!

You can now make an electronic contribution on our web-
site. Just go to our website:

www.faithlutheransaultstemarie.org

Scroll down to just above our videos. There, you will find
a green button that says

“Online Giving”

Click that and enter in your information, and Faith will
receive your contribution within 48 hours. The online giv-
ing company we went with (Tithe.ly) is one of the largest
and most secure companies who specialize in online
church giving, so your information is safe and secure. If
you would like any help going over this process, please
call the church office and we would be happy to help you.



**Our homebound and nursing home mem-
bers are often so isolated that your phone
call, visit, even a card can mean the differ-
ence between lonely existence and contin-
ued life in our faith community. What can
you do? Please reach out to those who
have been such a vital part of our congre-
gation and give back.**

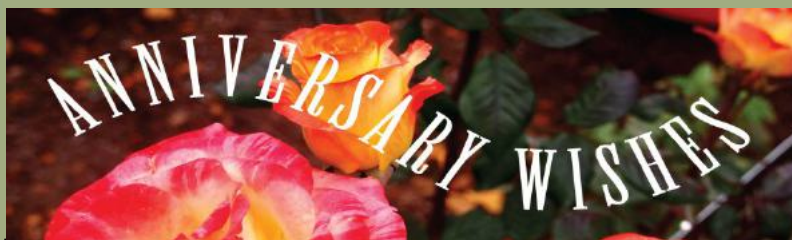
Beverly Tankersley– Medilodge– Rm
A10 1011 Meridian St. SSM, MI 49783

Linda Doran - 590 Three 1/2 Mile Rd.
SSM, MI 49783 (906) 630-1942

Mary Oja - McKinley Manor, 110-E 2023
W 4th, SSM, MI 49783 (906) 632-7496



4th Catherine Tibbett
7th Annette Wojnaroski
8th Kenneth Lake
8th Linda Doran
13th Mary Oja
14th James Norman
15th Gary Suriano
19th Ken Randall
31st Susan Cox



Gail & Jim Knight

67 years 3/28/59

Linda & Michael Doran

51 years 3/15/75

Dave & Pat Deatrick

50 years 3/13/76

**Daylight Savings
Time
Begins on March
8th!**

Don't forget to set your
clocks
forward an hour. Spring
is almost here!

WELCA

March 4th

meets the first
Wednesday of every
month
at 10:30am
for their bible
study, meeting,
and meal.

Quarters for Hunger

During the Season of Lent, we put out boxes to be taken home, and kept for the forty days of Lent. We ask that you collect Quarters, or any kind of change, that will go towards the ELCA's World Hunger Campaign. We appreciate you taking one and working on filling it over the Season of Lent.

MARCH 2026

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1 Second Sunday of Lent Worship 10:30am	2 Genesis 9:8-17 Quilting 1pm	3 Psalm 25:1-10 Yoga 9:30am	4 1 Peter 3:18-22 WELCA 10:30am Soup & Lent Devotions 5pm	5 Mark 1:9-15	6 Romans 10:8b-13	7 Luke 4:1-13
8 <i>Daylight Savings Time Begins</i> Third Sunday of Lent Worship 10:30am	9 Exodus 17:1-7 Quilting 1pm	10 Psalm 95 Yoga 9:30am	11 Romans 5:1-11 Soup & Lent Devotions 5pm	12 John 4:5-42	13 1 Corinthians 10: 18-25	14 Isaiah 55:1-9
15 Fourth Sunday of Lent Worship 10:30am	16 Numbers 21:4-9 Quilting 1pm	17 <i>St. Patrick's Day</i> John 3:14-21 Yoga 9:30am <i>Council Meeting 10:30am</i>	18 Ephesians 5:8-14 Soup & Lent Devotions 5pm	19 Psalm 32	20 Luke 15:1-2, 11b-32 First Day of Spring!	21 2 Corinthians 5:16-21
22 Fifth Sunday of Lent Worship 10:30am	23 Ezekiel 37:1-14 Quilting 1pm	24 Romans 8:6-11 Yoga 9:30am	25 John 11:1-45 Soup & Lent Devotions 5pm	26 Jeremiah 31:31-34	27 Hebrews 5:5-10	28 John 12:1-8
29 <i>Palm Sunday</i> Worship 10:30am	30 Matthew 21:1-11 Quilting 1pm	31 Philippians 2:5-11 Yoga 9:30am				



Consider strengthening your Marriage this Lent with a special Lenten offering at St. Joseph Parish, 1101 Minneapolis St., Sault Sainte Marie.

Authors of the book “He Said, She Said” Jay and Laura Laffoon are coming to Sault Sainte Marie. Sponsoring this event for our married couples are the St. Joseph Ladies Guild and the EUP Fertility Care Center. Jay and Laura Laffoon are renowned marriage speakers and authors known for their humor, authenticity, and invaluable insights into marriage and relationships. Their live events and written resources have impacted countless couples across the country.

Go to their website to learn more: <https://www.jayandlaura.com>
You will see their mission is to help busy married couples stay married for life!

RSVP to the St. Joseph Parish Office 906 632 9625 by 3/6/26 to hold your spot. We are inviting other churches in our area to this special event, so don't wait to hold your spot!

Christopher Columbus Hall Dinner \$20 per person will be served directly after the 4:30 Mass on 3/14/26 (around 5:15-5:30 pm). The “Ultimate Date Night” program with Jay and Laura will begin at **6:30 pm**.



PATHFINDER



FAITH LUTHERAN CHURCH*

Phone: 906-632-7246

Email: faithlutheranchurchssm@gmail.com

Website: <http://www.faithlutheransaultstemarie.org>

***A congregation of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America**

FAITH LUTHERAN CHURCH

1600 PARK STREET

SAULT STE. MARIE, MI 49783