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DATES AT A GLANCE

♦ June 14, 2026

Flag Day

♦ June 19, 2026

Juneteenth

♦ June 21, 2026

Father's Day &
First Day of Summer!

Office hours for
Faith Lutheran Church:
Tues. and Thurs.
10AM—2PM

Incase of Pastoral
Emergencies Pastor Elise
can be reached at
(906) 475-4410
Or by email at
pastorelisehynek@gmail.com

Letter from Pastor Elise — June 2026

Recently, I was able to go visit a seminary friend in Washington, DC, which meant I was able to worship at the congregation he serves, Augustana Lutheran Church (ELCA).

Worshipping at friend's congregations is always a delight for a couple of reasons. One, you get to know the people your friend holds dear, and put faces to names that have been mentioned in passing. Two, as a pastor, you no longer have the opportunity to simply worship and listen to someone preach on a regular basis. Finally, it's always wonderful to see how similar, yet different, congregations around the country worship.

I have mentioned in the past that our scripture readings every Sunday have been pre-selected by a committee that designed a 3-year lectionary cycle that bring us through most of the Bible. This selection of readings is known as the Revised Common Lectionary, and is used by most mainline Protestant churches every week, meaning the scripture you heard read and preached on Sunday were likely the same readings read at the Presbyterian congregation down the road, the Methodist church a town over, and at my friend's congregation all the way over in Washington, DC. It's a practice that connects us across geography and denominational traditions. The same is true for the parament colors. When our congregation uses red, thousands of other congregations are doing the same. I could go on and describe how similar worship flow, elements, worship leaders, liturgy, etc, are, but I hope you get the idea that are similarities with our siblings in Christ go beyond our shared faith and into our worship life. My friend's congregation was a reminder of how differently our styles of worship can be, even when we have so many similarities. In both architecture and worship, you may not recognize it as a Lutheran church to begin with. My friend joked that they've had people attend worship with them, thinking they are at St Augustine Catholic Church around the corner, until his co-pastor, a woman, stands up to preside.

The church building is set up more like an old Catholic cathedral. An aerial view would show you how the floor plan makes the shape of a cross. At the transept, or the arms of the cross, there's a prayer altar, with candles and icons of saints and other Christians that reflect the congregation. For example, this congregation worked with the Civil Rights movement, so there's a icon of Martin Luther King Jr, and they have a large Salvadoran population, so there is also an icon Bishop Oscar Romero. Lutherans use icons a little differently. Catholics pray for saints to intercede on their behalf, much like our weekly prayers of intercession, when we intercede on the behalf of others. Lutherans use icons as a reminder of the Christians who have set a good example of living out their faith, such as MLK and Romero, who were assassinated for their work advocating for the poor and equal protection of the vulnerable under the law. As you progress past the transept, you step up into the choir, which is an elevated platform where the choir sits, before you set up into the apse where the high altar is set. To the right of the altar are chairs for the pastors, deacons, and other worship assistants to sit. To the left of the altar is a special chair that remains vacant, as it is reserved for the bishop when they visit.

Continued on pg. 2...



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](https://www.facebook.com/FaithLC1966)

Their worship was much more sensory than a lot of worship services you or I would be familiar with. Much of the service was sung, from the processional hymn to the psalm to much of communion. If you closed your eyes, you may find yourself transported to an ancient monastery. When it came time to read the gospel, the crucifer (cross bearer) led a small procession from the apse (high altar) to the middle of the congregation where the preacher read the day's gospel before the crucifer led the procession back through the choir to the apse. Throughout worship, many people, clergy and parishioner alike, would bow, or kneel, or cross themselves as recognition of the divinity of God or the sacredness of the communion elements. As it was Pentecost, there were more elements than their normal Sunday. The main difference this Sunday was they used a thurible, which is a metal incense burner suspended from chains. Incense is burned in this thurible, and an acolyte intentionally swings the thurible ahead of any procession, such as the gospel reading mentioned above. It is used again at communion, when the acolyte passes the thurible to the presiding clergy who swings the thurible three times in three different directions over the high altar. Each swing and direction is done in recognition of the Trinity. The use of incense, often linked to Psalm 141, is symbolic of purification, and it marks the gathering for worship, the highpoint of the scripture reading, the sacrament that the assembly is about to observe, and the importance of ministry in the world.

There are times, when we become so familiar with our own setting, that we start to believe that our expression of worship is *the* expression of worship for the whole ELCA. We may start to treat churches a little bit like a McDonalds, where the buildings may slightly differ, but the contents inside will be the same. To a certain point, this is true. All ELCA churches have a standard of theology that we profess, but the way we express that in worship is not as standardized as we might expect as you go from church to church, region to region. Some will have vestments (clergy and acolyte clothing) while others wear street clothes. Some will use incense and candles while other used different light settings. Some will use an organ while others use a piano while others use a worship band. Some will have a call and response, interactive worship while others will have more of a listen and contemplate style. Some will have communion every week while others will only have it once a month.

It was good reminder we are not as homogenous as we may think we are, nor are we as different from each other as we may assume. When you walk into an ELCA church, the worship experience may differ, sometimes drastically from what you're used to, but the truth remains the same: You are a beloved child of God, and you have been saved, not by your own works, but by faith through the grace of God.

Financial Statement

	Apr-26	Budget	Net Activity Over (Under) Budget	Last Year Month of April 2025	Apr-26 Year-to-Date Actual	Apr-26 Year-to-Date Budget	Net Activity Over (Under) Budget	Last Year April 2025 Year -to-Date
General Fund Revenue	\$ 9,829.51	\$ 13,450.00	\$ (3,620.49)	\$ 12,152.13	\$ 48,549.55	\$ 50,026.00	\$ (1,476.45)	\$ 52,895.09
Expenses	\$ 7,934.93	\$ 7,164.00	\$ 770.93	\$ 12,602.36	\$ 32,220.80	\$ 30,894.00	\$ 1,326.80	\$ 51,353.67
Operating Revenue								
Over (Under) Expenses	\$ 1,894.58	\$ 6,286.00	\$ (4,391.42)	\$ (450.23)	\$ 16,328.75	\$ 19,132.00	\$ (2,803.25)	\$ 1,541.42
Total Other Non Operating Revenue	\$ 6,639.90	\$ -	\$ 6,639.90	\$ (845.83)	\$ 4,266.13	\$ -	\$ 4,266.13	\$ (8,472.36)
Other Non Operating Expenditures		\$ -	\$ -			\$ -	\$ -	
Balance with Non operating	\$ 8,534.48	\$ 6,286.00	\$ 2,248.48	\$ (1,296.06)	\$ 20,594.88	\$ 19,132.00	\$ 1,462.88	\$ (6,930.94)

Faith Lutheran Church Council Meeting

April 21, 2026

The meeting was called to order by President David Bean at 10:34AM.

Members Present: Pastor Elise Hynek, David Bean, Kathleen Flickinger, Wayne Olsen, Ann Li Bean via phone, Karla Webb, Ben Deatrick

Member Absent: Sandra Lawson, excused

Visitor: Shoe Miles

Devotion: March: May: Sandra Lawson

Future Council Meeting: May 19, 2026.

Minutes: Kathy made a motion to accept the March 17, 2026 council minutes with one correction. Karla seconded. Motion passed.

Old Business: Church rental agreement to be reviewed on June 9, 2026 at 10:00AM.

B: Constitution update to Church Wide Assembly changes to be done on June 9, 2026 1:00PM.

C: Fellowship Hall is rented on May 1, 2026.

New Business:

A: World Hunger Quarters collected on April 19, 2026. When the total amount is counted and deposited in the church's checking account a check will be sent to Northern Great Lakes Synod for World Hunger.

B: Information was received of \$1500.00 available from the Synod Grant Application. Money is to be used for community purposes. More information is needed. Thrivent also discussed.

C: Budget will be reviewed in August 2026.

D: Shoe Miles presented a tentative plan to have a small, raised garden on church property that has the potential of becoming a neighborhood event. Information on the garden is available on the table where the flower sign up is in the Narthex.

E: A request to cover the cost of registration for 2 youth and 1 adult to Fortune Lake Lutheran Camp was received. Karla made a motion to do so. Dennis seconded. Motion passed.

F: A task force of Ed Hallquist, Wayne Olsen, David Bean and Dennis Brindley will meet on May 14, 2026 at 10:00AM to start talks on the repair of the flat roof.

G: A motion was made to change the date of the May 19 council meeting to May 12 at 2:00PM by Dave. Seconded by Kathy. Motion passed.

Pastors Report: Pastor Elise gave her Pastors report for March 17- April 20, 2026. Pastor Elise will be on vacation May 18-30, June 17-27, August 5-13 and Camp pastor at Fortune Lake on July 13-19. Synod Assembly at St. James May 16.

Committee Reports:

Campus Ministry: On Pause.

Christian Education: Vacation Bible School meeting on April 23, 2026 at the First Presbyterian Church.

Come to the Table: On Pause

Endowment: The 2025 disbursement from the Investment Fund was deposited in the General Fund. The registration for 2 children and 1 required adult to Fortune Lake Lutheran Camp was paid.

Fellowship: Easter Brunch was wonderful with 50 people in attendance. Generous donations were received to help defray the cost of the Easter Brunch. Future meeting on April 26 to finalize plans for Mother's Day and Father's.

Finance: Wayne gave the financial report for March 2026, and the 2025 Audit Report by Steve Rogers following ELCA guidelines. \$7000.00 was transferred from Faiths general account to the Investment account. More will be transferred in a few months.

Membership: Several new people have been attending fairly regularly. Pastor Elise and David will reach out to these people.

Memorial: Several pavers in the Memorial Garden needed to be inspected and repaired.

Outreach: No Report.

Property: There was some water leakage from the Spring thaw in the Boiler Room. A stake had been placed at the discharge area to keep the opening from freezing. Ed Hallquist will soon be checking out the flat roofs of the church.

Stewardship: Stewardship Committee usually meets in August. No date yet decided.

WELCA: The monthly meeting and Bible Study were held on April 1, 2026. Visits to church active members who are shut-ins are in discussion. The Annual Bazaar will be held on October 10, 2026.

Worship and Music: Next meeting to be held on April 28, 2026. Training of people on the elements of worship and leading of worship will be on the agenda. April was a difficult month to find worship leaders. A special Thank You to Patrick Shea and James Norman for doing the Holden Service during Lent, Pastor Elise for Maundy Thursday Service and the readers for Tenebrae Service Good Friday.

Dennis made a motion to accept the committee reports including the Pastors Report and Financial Report.

Kathleen seconded. Motion passed.

The meeting adjourned at 11:53AM with a closing prayer with the Lord's prayer.

Respectfully submitted,
Kathleen Flickinger, Vice President

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: Dave Bean, Kathy Flickinger, Dennis Brindley, Sandy Lawson, Ben Deatrack, Wayne Olsen, Karla Webb, and Ann Bean.



Our homebound and nursing home members are often so isolated that your phone call, visit, even a card can mean the difference between lonely existence and continued life in our faith community. What can you do? Please reach out to those who have been such a vital part of our congregation and give back.

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 website. 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 giving 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.

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



12th Barry Levine
12th Dixie Picotte
16th Lorraine Cobb
20th Pam Hill
26th Joy Lake



Debby & Marc Carr

06/11/1983 - 43 years

Kevin & Jill Weber

06/25/2011 - 15 years



WELCA

will meet on
Wednesday,
June 3rd
at 10:30am for bible
study, meeting,
and meal.

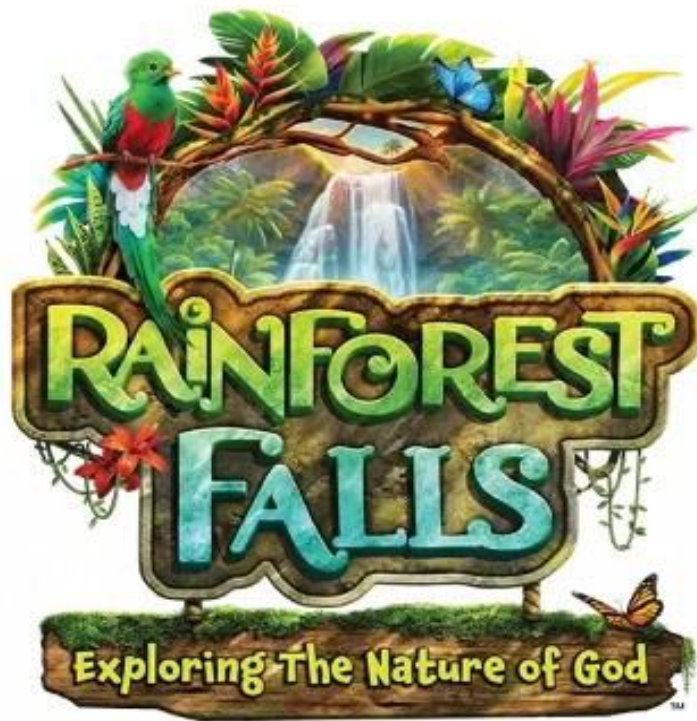


Summer Luncheon & Social

The Presbyterian Women of First United Presbyterian Church will be hosting a "Celebrate Summer" luncheon and social on **June 16th, from 12 noon to 2pm.** The luncheon will be held downstairs in their Social Hall (elevator available if needed). There will be speakers from Community Action and Margaret Eagle has an easy take home craft project for everyone to do.

Please **RSVP** by **June 8th** to Margaret at 906-399-1743 or by email to eaglemp71@gmail.com. You may also call the Presbyterian church office at 906-632-7771

All women are invited to attend and welcome summer!



VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL

First United Presbyterian Church
555 Bingham Avenue
(906) 632-7771

**Monday, June 29th through
Thursday, July 2nd**

From 9:00am until 12 noon

Ages 3 years through 11 years

(community welcome at no cost)

We will have games & crafts, dancing & singing, stories & snacks! It's Fun and it's Free! Bring your kids, grandkids, and neighbor kids, for 4 days of fun and learning about the Nature of God!

Registration forms are available in the narthex and church office (open Tuesday and Thursday, 10-2). Come join us!

VBS is sponsored by Central United Methodist Church, First United Presbyterian Church, and Faith Lutheran Church.

June 2026

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	1 Psalm 96:1-6 Quilting 1pm	2 Luke 7:1-10 No Yoga today	3 Mark 2:23-3:6 WELCA 10:30am	4 Deuteronomy 5:12-15	5 Matthew 7:21-29	6 Galatians 1:1-12
7 2nd Sunday after Pentecost Worship 10:30am	8 Romans 4:13-25 Quilting 1pm	9 Genesis 12:1-9 Yoga 9:30am <i>Worship & Music meeting 1pm</i> <i>Council meeting</i>	10 Luke 7:11-17	11 Psalm 33:1-12	12 1 Kings 17:17-24	13 Mark 3:20-35
14 3rd Sunday after Pentecost Worship 10:30am <i>Flag Day</i>	15 Exodus 19:2-8a Quilting 1pm	16 Psalm 100 Yoga 9:30am	17 Romans 5:1-8	18 Matthew 9:35-10:8	19 Mark 4:26-34 <i>Juneteenth</i>	20 Psalm 5:1-8
21 4th Sunday after Pentecost Worship 10:30am <i>Father's Day</i>	22 Jeremiah 20:7-13 Quilting 1pm	23 Romans 6:1b-11 Yoga 9:30am	24 Matthew 10:24-39	25 Genesis 21: 8-21	26 Job 38:1-11	27 Mark 4:35-41
28 5th Sunday after Pentecost Worship 10:30am <i>Celebrate Fathers Lunch</i>	29 Psalm 13 VBS @ Presbyterian 9am-noon Quilting 1pm	30 Jeremiah 28:5-9 VBS @ Presbyterian 9am-noon Yoga 9:30am				

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

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