

November &
December 2026

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Office hours for Faith Lutheran Church:

Tues. & Thurs.
10AM—2PM

In case of Pastoral Emergencies

Pastor Elise can be reached
at **906-275-4410**

Or by email at
pastorelisehynek@gmail.com

All Together in One Place: A Healthy Patriotism

Dear church,

Fannie Lou Hamer was a powerful Black woman who risked her life so that all people could exercise their right to vote. After attempting to register to vote in Mississippi in 1962, she faced violent retaliation, enduring threats, beatings and intimidation. Yet she continued to sing, testify, march and organize for equal voting rights for all people. She was not wealthy. She did not hold a high public office. Yet she exercised a profound public vocation, insisting she and her neighbors had the right to participate in civic life and to have the food, land and opportunity needed to flourish. She was a patriot who loved her country enough to challenge it to live up to its promise that every voice matters and every vote counts. By risking her own safety in the struggle for democracy, Hamer acted as a patriot, calling public leaders to serve everyone.

The airwaves are full of conflicting messages about patriotism, and many of you have written with your own questions and perspectives.

Together, this is what our church has decided to say:

"The ELCA understanding of civic life and faith affirms healthy forms of patriotism. Patriotism is to love one's country, to pray for its well-being, to be committed to its success, to have a sense of pride in it, to criticize it, and to work for its reform when necessary. All of these can be elements of how Christians and their communities live out discipleship as individuals and in corporate bodies" (2025 social statement Faith and Civic Life: Seeking the Well-being of All).

Healthy patriotism celebrates what is good and beautiful in our common life while remaining committed to tending to what is wounded and broken. Healthy patriotism fosters a sense of shared belonging because the strength of our nation lies in our ability to live together as diverse people who share a common future.

As Lutherans, we can live out healthy patriotism. We understand the government is called to serve and protect the common good. We exercise patriotism in part by holding public leaders accountable to serve the common good.

How should public leaders act? After Martin Luther wrote a commentary about Mary's Magnificat (Luke 1:46-55), he sent it to the local prince along with a cover letter, telling him to follow the example of Mary the mother of Jesus. It was not common for monks to address princes in this way. Yet Luther wanted the prince to know Mary was a true leader. She trusted God with an open heart and allowed the Holy Spirit to work through her for the sake of others. She did this, not for her own fame or renown, but with humility and grace. Luther's emphasis on the marks of leadership rings true today.

As Lutherans, we continue to make this connection between trusting God and serving the common good.

Both Luther and Hamer remind us that positions of responsibility and public service are gifts to be used for the good of all, and that societies thrive when leaders and neighbors alike are guided by humility, gratitude and a concern for others.

As Election Day approaches, we can approach this responsibility with prayerful hearts and a commitment to the flourishing of all people. In all that we do, may we embody a patriotism rooted in gratitude, shaped by humility, strengthened by hope and guided by Christ's command to love our neighbors, working so that every voice can be heard and every person can participate in shaping our future. May we care for one another and our country enough to serve faithfully, speak truthfully and seek our common good. Like Hamer, may we take up our vocations in public life. And may Mary's song remind us that above all, our hope rests not in human strength, but in the steadfast love of God.

In Christ,

The Rev. Yehiel Curry

Presiding Bishop

Evangelical Lutheran Church in America



Join us Sundays at 10:30am*

You can watch live on Facebook

*We begin with organ music at 10:20am

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

Recent Photos! Bazaar & Salad Luncheon - October 10, 2026



Faith Lutheran Church Council Meeting July 21, 2026

Pastor Elise offered an Opening Prayer.

The meeting was called to order by President David Bean at 10:33AM.

Members Present: Pastor Elise Hynek, David Bean, Sandra Lawson, Dennis Brindley, Karla Webb, Ann Li Bean, Ben Deatrack.

Member Absent: Kathleen Flickinger, Wayne Olsen, both excused.

Visitor: Catherine Tibbett

Devotion: Karla Webb September: Ben Deatrack

Future Council Meeting: September 15, 2026.

Minutes: Ben made a motion to accept June 16, 2026 council minutes, Dennis seconded. Motion passed.

Old Business:

A: A Grant for \$835.00 was submitted to Northern Great Lakes Synod Ministry Fund to help defray the cost associated with operating the community garden. Lumber for raised garden beds and other supplies will be needed.

B: Fifty-Five people attended the Ecumenical Service and Picnic on July 12th. The three church's each received \$79.00 from the loose collection.

C: Faiths Constitution has been up to date with the ELCA 2025 Model Constitution. Ann made a motion to approve the updates. Dennis seconded. Motion passed.

New Business:

A: Consolidation of church committees will be reviewed by the Constitution Committee. Dennis made a motion to accept this discussion. Karla seconded. Motion passed.

B: The paperwork for weddings, baptisms and funerals has been updated.

C: Council received a request that the Baptismal Font be located by the entrance door into Sanctuary and have water in it. This would be a renewal of Baptism. Pastor Elise said that regular water may be used but that the Font will have to be maintained. The council forwarded the request to Worship and Music with council's blessing.

D: Rotary Club of Sault Sainte Marie requested use of Faiths Fellowship Hall on August 26-27, 2026. Ben made a motion to accept the request. Sandy seconded. Motion passed.

E: WITT (Walking in Transition of Time) is a program offered by the ELCA to help guide a congregation during the time when one pastor leaves and a new pastor arrives. Six church members will serve on this committee to help coordinate the program. More information will follow.

F: A discussion on installing a net on the posts in the church back yard and buying a volleyball for the neighborhood to use. Wayne to check with the church's insurance.

Pastors Report: Pastor Elise gave her Pastors report for June 16- July 20, 2026. Pastoral Activity includes Faiths council meeting, hospital visit and Godly Play training. Time as Fortune Lake Camp Pastor was a success. Pastor Elise to hold Confirmation Class at Faith for students who live in the Sault and attend St. James. Three Lakes Conference will be at Cedarville in September. Vacation August 5-13, 2026. If you receive any request from Pastor Elise, don't respond as it is spam.

Financial Report: Dave gave the June 2026 Financial Report. The budget is holding and Benevolence is paid up to date.

Committee Reports:

Campus Ministry: On Pause.

Christian Education: Thirty-five students attended VBS this year on June 29-July 2. The decline in attendance was attributed to several Sault Schools having programs on the usual dates

Come to the Table: On Pause.

Endowment: No Report.

Fellowship: No Report.

Membership: No Report.

Memorial: No Report.

Outreach: No Report.

Property: The Garden group will meet on July 22, 2026 at Faith to discuss plans for the garden.

Staff Support: No Report.

Stewardship: No Report.

WELCA: No Report.

Worship and Music: Hymns selected up to August 23rd. A farewell reception will be held for James Norman on August 23 after church service.

Ben made a motion to accept the committee reports, including the Pastors Report and Financial Report. Dennis seconded. Motion passed. Dennis made a motion to adjourn. Ben seconded. Motion passed.

The meeting adjourned at 12:05PM with the Lord's Prayer.

Respectfully submitted, Sandra Lawson, Council Secretary

**Faith Lutheran Church
Special Congregational Meeting
July 26, 2026**

The meeting was called to order by President David Bean at 11:49AM. A quorum was noted. Pastor Elise Hynek gave an opening prayer.

President David Bean explained the vote. Dave explained that several flat roofs of the church had leaks. In the summer of 2025 Ed Hallquist and Derrick went up on the roof and did temporary repairs. In the spring of 2026, there were no leaks.

A task force was formed in 2026 and requested quotes from Kaysner Construction and Great Lakes Roofing. The difference between the two quotes were explained and the council choose Kaysner Construction quote of \$28,850.00 with a twenty-year warranty. Dave asked for any questions before the vote. Kathy Flickinger asked the timeline for the Fellowship Hall roof. The Fellowship Hall roof is good for five to ten years and the roof over the Sanctuary needs to be repaired next. Wayne Olsen has three options for finance: Northern Great Lakes Synod, Edward Jones Account or Central Savings Bank.

Debbie Carr made a motion to accept the first vote on the ballot to accept the bid from Kaysner Construction for \$28,850.00 to repair the listed areas of the flat roofs. Keith Nortch seconded. Motion passed. Sandra Lawson made a motion to accept the second vote on the ballot to authorize Faith Lutheran Church to borrow up to \$28,850.00 to repair the sections of roof that need to be repaired. Joy Lake seconded. Motion passed.

The voting ballots were passed. The votes were collected and counted by Ann Li Bean and Catherine Tibbett. The first proposal was thirty-five yes and zero no. The second proposal was thirty-five yes and zero no. Both Votes passed unanimously

Ann Li Bean made a motion to close the meeting. Keith Nortch seconded. Motion passed. Pastor Elise gave a closing Prayer. The meeting closed at 12:07PM.

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

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



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.

Congregational Council:

Dave Bean, President
(2026)

Christian Ed., Membership,
Staff Support, Stewardship
815-718-5913
bean.david56@gmail.com

Kathy Flickinger, V.P.
(2025)
Endowment, Christian
Fellowship
906-748-0483
kathyflickinger36@gmail.com

Sandra Lawson, Secretary
(2025)
Membership, Memorials,
Outreach
906-630-3482
Jacsan42@aol.com

Wayne Olsen, Treasurer
(2025)
Endowment, Finance,
Stewardship, Property
989-430-5678
wayneolsen@hotmail.com

Dennis Brindley (2024)
Property, Staff support
906-440-2920
dbrindleyod@gmail.com

Ann Bean (2026)
Outreach
815-499-7913
ann.bean57@gmail.com

Karla Webb (2026)
Christian Fellowship,
Finance, Memorials,
Community Garden
616-450-8327
kcaras@hotmail.com

Ben Deatrick (1 yr. term)
Worship & Music
906-440-4609
bendeatrick@att.net

Beverly Tankersley – Medilodge of
Gaylord 508 Random Lane
Gaylord, MI 49735

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

Margaret Laursen - McKinley Manor,
105-E 2023 W 4th Ave SSM, MI 49783

Online giving is here!

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 help going over this process, please call the church office and we would be happy to help you.

FINANCIAL STATEMENT

Faith Lutheran
Year To Date
Revenue and Expenses
as of July 31, 2026

	2026 Actual	2026 Budget	Variance
Total Revenue	\$ 81,885.54	\$ 82,930.00	\$ (1,044.46)
Expenses			
Office Staff & Custodial	\$ 7,662.48	\$ 6,897.00	\$ 765.48
Benefits	\$ 670.81	\$ 1,118.00	\$ (447.19)
Total	<u>\$ 8,333.29</u>	<u>\$ 8,015.00</u>	<u>\$ 318.29</u>
Building & Grounds	\$ 19,584.82	\$ 4,765.00	\$ 14,819.82
Utilities	\$ 8,978.81	\$ 7,149.00	\$ 1,829.81
Insurance Building & Liability	\$ 3,015.87	\$ 3,210.00	\$ (194.13)
Total	<u>\$ 31,579.50</u>	<u>\$ 15,124.00</u>	<u>\$ 16,455.50</u>
Education Adult	\$ 120.00	\$ 800.00	\$ (680.00)
Youth.	\$ 750.00	\$ 1,400.00	\$ (650.00)
Office Expense	\$ 2,134.40	\$ 4,334.00	\$ (2,199.60)
Other Expenses	\$ 901.38	\$ 2,672.00	\$ (1,770.62)
Benevolence Fund	\$ 2,470.00	\$ 2,450.00	\$ 20.00
Donations	\$ 2,066.63	\$ 707.00	\$ 1,359.63
Pulpit Supply & Interim Pastor	\$ 10,279.83	\$ 10,190.00	\$ 89.83
Organ supply & Worship Expenses	\$ 4,373.22	\$ 4,573.00	\$ (199.78)
Total	<u>\$ 23,095.46</u>	<u>\$ 27,126.00</u>	<u>\$ (4,030.54)</u>
Total Expenses	<u>\$ 63,008.25</u>	<u>\$ 50,265.00</u>	<u>\$ 12,743.25</u>
Net Revenue	<u>\$ 18,877.29</u>	<u>\$ 32,665.00</u>	<u>\$ (13,787.71)</u>

Note: \$14,000.00 Tranferred to Investment Account
\$14,525 Repair Expense was for roof repairs.



2nd Sandee Raappana
3rd Stephanie Sanderson
6th Bob Mattson
7th Keith Nortch
24th Shoe Miles
26th Norman Webb

There will be a
**Thanksgiving &
volunteer
appreciation lunch**
following worship
service on
November 8th.

Our ladies group,
WELCA, meets the
first Wednesday of
every month at
10:30AM for bible
study and a meeting.
Bring something to
eat for lunch.

NOVEMBER
ANNIVERSARIES

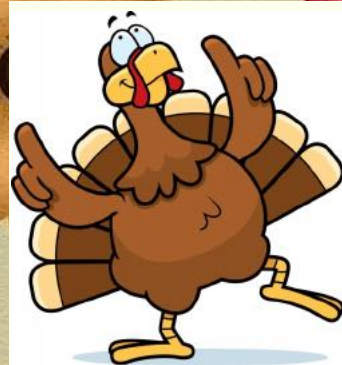
Russell & Marilyn White
11/2

Dates at a Glance

- ◆ **November 1, 2026**
All Saints Sunday
- ◆ **November 11, 2026**
Veteran's Day
- ◆ **November 22, 2026**
Christ the King
- ◆ **November 26, 2026**
Thanksgiving Day
- ◆ **November 29, 2026**
First Sunday of Advent

**Daylight Savings Time
Ends November 1st**

Don't forget to turn the
clock **back** an hour !



We are once again be
collecting **money** that
will go towards
turkeys for the
**United Way's food
distribution.**

December BIRTHDAYS

10th Ben Deatrick
10th Jill Webber
20th Dave Bean
29th Connie Mattson

December anniversaries

Dennis & Ruth Ann Brindley
56 years 12/27/70

Youth Wreath Fundraiser

It's that time of year again!

You will be able to order beautiful Christmas wreaths **starting November 1st. The cost is \$30 each.** There will be an order sheet in the Narthex, and wreaths will be ready **for pick-up on December 6th.** All proceeds will go towards Faith Lutheran Youth.



Dates at a Glance

- ♦ December 24, 2026
Christmas Eve
- ♦ December 25, 2026
Christmas Day
- ♦ December 31, 2026
New Year's Eve

Ways to worship with us through Advent & Christmas Eve

First Sunday in Advent – November 29th at 10:30am
Second Sunday in Advent – December 6th at 10:30am
Third Sunday in Advent – December 13th at 10:30am
Fourth Sunday in Advent – December 20th at 10:30am
Candlelight Christmas Eve – December 24th at 7:00pm



thank
you!

We would like to express our sincere gratitude to everyone who helped out at the 2026 Bazaar and Salad Luncheon. Those that donated items, time, money, and put together the event made a huge difference in our community. Your generosity and dedication are truly appreciated.

Congregational Budget Meeting

Sunday, **December 6th** will be the congregational budget meeting. It will begin following the 10:30am worship service. The purpose of this meeting is to review and vote on the 2027 budget.

Family of Faith,
Thank-you all for the
love + support to our family!
We have All been so blessed
to be a part of this
community!

Thank-you for a wonderful
luncheon after the service
for Mom + All the love
+ support to us all.

Thank-you
Kinnear
Family

Your kind expression of
sympathy and friendship
will always remain
in our memories

Thank you for
your thoughtfulness

Thank You note from The Kinnear Family, is pinned on the community bulletin board.

Advent Devotions

Join us for the mid-week Advent devotions and feel free to bring a friend! We will be using Holden Evening Prayer. More details will be provided closer to the start of the season.



2027 Synod Assembly
will be held **April 22 - 24**
at **Messiah Lutheran**
Church and NMU
campus in
Marquette, MI

During your Congregation Annual Meetings, this fall and winter, make sure to elect VOTING MEMBERS for Synod Assembly per your Constitution.

Feb 1, 2027: Registration OPENS

March 1, 2027: Late registration begins.

March 22, 2027: Registration CLOSES

O Holy Night

ANNUAL BAZAAR & TEA

Saturday ✨ Nov. 7, 2026

1-3:30 pm

TICKETS \$8.00



FIRST UNITED PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

555 Bingham Ave. ✨ Sault Ste. Marie, Mich.



Central United Methodist Church,
111 E Spruce Street, Sault Ste Marie, Michigan

Please Join Us:

Saturday, November 14th, 2026

9:30 AM – 2:30 PM

Central United
Methodist Women of
Faith's Annual Bazaar
Featuring:

Morning Coffee/Tea:
9:30-10:30 AM

Luncheon:
11:00 AM – 2:00 PM
(\$9 Donation)

Holiday Decorations

Baked Goods

Cookie Walk

Attic Treasures

Centerpieces

Sewing/Knitting



Star of Wonder!

NOVEMBER



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1 All Saints Sunday Worship 10:30a <i>Daylight Savings Time Ends!</i>	2 Micah 3:5-12 Quilting 1pm	3 1 Thess 2:9-13 9:30a Yoga	4 Psalm 43 WELCA 10:30am	5 Matthew 23:1-12 Choir 6:30p	6 Joshua 3:7-17	7 Psalm 107:1-7, 33-37
8 24th Sunday after Pentecost Worship 10:30a Thanksgiving Lunch	9 Psalm 78:1-7 Quilting 1pm	10 Matthew 25:1-13 Yoga 9:30a	11 1 Thess 4:13-18 Veteran's Day	12 Joshua 24:1-3a, 14-25 Choir 6:30p	13 Psalm 70	14 Amos 5:18-24
15 25th Sunday after Pentecost Worship 10:30a	16 Judges 4:1-7 Quilting 1pm	17 Psalm 123 Yoga 9:30a <i>Council Meeting</i>	18 Zeph 1:7, 12-18	19 1 Thess 5:1-11 Choir 6:30p	20 Matthew 25:14-30	21 Psalm 90:1-12
22 Christ the King Worship 10:30a	23 Matthew 25:31-46 Quilting 1pm	24 Psalm 95:1-7a Yoga 9:30a	25 Ezekiel 34:11-16, 20-24	26 Psalm 100 Thanksgiving Day	27 Eph 1:15-23	28 Psalm 93
29 First Sunday of Advent Worship 10:30a	30 Isaiah 2:1-5 Quilting 1pm					

DECEMBER

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
		1 Romans 13:11-14 Yoga 9:30am	2 WELCA 10:30a	3 Psalm 122 Choir 6:30p	4 Matthew 24:36-44	5 Isaiah 64:1-9
6 Second Sunday in Advent Worship 10:30am <i>Congregational Budget Meeting</i>	7 Matthew 3:1-12 Quilting 1pm	8 Isaiah 11:1-10 Yoga 9:30am	9 Psalm 72:1-7, 18-19	10 Romans 15:4-13 Choir 6:30p	11 Mark 1:1-8	12 Isaiah 40:1-11
13 Third Sunday in Advent Worship 10:30am	14 Psalm 146:5-10 Quilting 1pm	15 Matthew 11:2-11 Yoga 9:30am	16 Isaiah 35:1-10	17 James 5:7-10 Choir 6:30p	18 Psalm 126	19 Luke 1:46b - 55
20 Fourth Sunday in Advent Worship 10:30am	21 Isaiah 7:10-16 Quilting 1pm <i>1st day of Winter</i>	22 Romans 1:1-17	23 Psalm 80:1-7, 17-19	24 Titus 2:11-14 Candlelight 7pm Christmas Eve	25 Isaiah 62: 6-12 Christmas Day	26 Matthew :1:18-25
27 First Sunday in Christmas Worship 10:30am	28 Hebrews 2:10-18 Quilting 1pm	29 Psalm 148	30 Matthew 2:13-23	31 Isaiah 63:7-9 New Year's Eve		



PATHFINDER



FAITH LUTHERAN CHURCH*

Phone number: 906-632-7246

Email: faithlutheranchurchssm@gmail.com

*a congregation of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America

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