SEPTEMBER 2026

FOCUS ON FAITH

Faith Lutheran Church

MESSAGE FROM PASTOR

"...whose splendor is over earth and heaven."

Psalm 148:13

An often-forgotten influence on the rhythm of the church year is our Sun. Without it life wouldn't exist on earth, and our orbit around it is more significant than we sometimes imagine as creatures independent from the cycles of nature. We have always ordered our lives around the seasons.

The moment known as the autumnal equinox, when the hours of daylight equal the hours of darkness, arrives this month. When darkness is longest, the church remembers the incarnation of God's Word in Jesus, and with the vernal equinox we remember his Easter victory over death. Sundays during long days of summer immerse us in lessons of discipleship, but the significance of fall can be lost amid the return of school, and a focus on programs and busy schedules. What is the spiritual significance of this time?

The story of creation with all of its resilience, vulnerability, and wonder may be especially suited to this moment, a time for reflecting on our relationship to God's world with gratitude and praise. This month, as our congregation celebrates our 70th Anniversary, our worship will include resources from a Season of Creation, reflecting ecumenical work done throughout the church. How does creation inform your sense of God? Its wisdom may be closer than you think!

God's peace,
Pastor John

Sunset at Riveredge-Alisa Norquist

SUNDAY ADULT FORUM

September 6
11:00 a.m.
Joe Dorr will lead a presentation on Outreach for Hope.

COMMUNITY CAMPFIRES

September 9 and October 14
Wednesdays
6:30 p.m.
Faith Community Pathways
This is a fun all age social event. Please bring a chair. Hosted by the Faith Church Council.

STILL AND LISTENING

September 10
2nd Thursday of the Month
6:30 p.m.
Tom Schoofs is back leading this modern worship with music, word, and quiet reflection time. All ages are welcome to join!

GOD'S WORK, OUR HANDS SUNDAY

September 13
We will pack the LWR school bags and do work in the woods.

SUNDAY SCHOOL STARTS

September 13
Sunday school will meet during worship. **Teachers are needed.** Materials are provided. If you are interested in helping, please contact either Cory or Tom Schoofs.

FAITH 70th ANNIVERSARY SPAGHETTI DINNER

Planting Seeds and Sharing Hope
September 19
Saturday
Noon
Adult Tickets: $15
Children 12 and under: $8
Purchase tickets by September 12.
To register and purchase tickets:
70th Anniversary Dinner

SUNDAY BIBLE STUDY

September 20
11:00 a.m.
The Church Council will lead a special Bible study focused on Faith's 70th anniversary.

COMMUNITY BOOK CLUB

September 26
Monday
6:30 p.m.
Faith Lutheran Church
All are welcome to join us in the library at Faith Lutheran Church. We will be discussing *This is How it Always Is* by Laurie Frankel.
Contacts: Cory Schoofs and Pastor Erin Coutts

OUTREACH FOR HOPE RIDE RUN WALK

September 26
Saturday
Join all of your friends at our 2026 Family Ride Run Walk, and help fundraise for grants to central city congregations in the Greater Milwaukee Synod! For more information, to donate, and to register: Outreach for Hope

Find the Faith calendar on the Faith website under the Events and Calendar page: Calendar

FAITH 70TH ANNIVERSARY MUM SALE

Groth's Country Gardens
Cost: $22.00
Type: 12 inch, potted
Colors: Tricolor (purple, yellow, orange), red, purple, orange, yellow or white
There will be limited quantities of each color.
Order due: September 14
Pick up at church: September 17
The flowers can be designated for either the church or for yourself. Envelopes for ordering will be available at church. Please pay with either cash or check. *Make checks payable to Faith Lutheran Church. In the memo field put MUMS.*

EPIC CONFIRMATION CLASSES

2026-2027
Wednesdays
5:15-7:15 p.m.
Advent Lutheran Church
Confirmation classes start on September 23. Classes are for youth in grades 6-8. The classes are from 5:15-7:15 p.m. Dinner is included. There are no classes during Lent. Youth are expected to participate in worship during that time. Confirmation is a shared ministry of the local ELCA churches

To register: EPIC Confirmation Classes

SUNRISE CIRCLE BEGINS NEW YEAR

It is September and the Sunrise Circle ladies are ready to get back to their regular schedule. Our main project is to make quilts that are donated to people in need. We have a wide variety of fabrics ready to be made into beautiful quilts. We meet at the church the first three Wednesdays of each month, September-May. Our first meeting will be Wednesday , September 2, at 9:00 a.m. Come and join us. You can see and hear if this is something that you would be interested in. We have many projects for anyone interested in helping out. Desserts and beverages are always served! For questions and more information, please, contact Ruth Gollnick. Perfect attendance is not required!

THANK YOU

We had two big events recently with VBS and Prairie Palooza. We are so grateful for all the planners and the volunteers. Thank you for sharing your gifts and your time. A special thanks goes to Cory and Tom Schoofs, Julia Gergens, Laura and Sean Kinnunen, and Al Gresch.

WORSHIP ASSISTANTS AND COFFEE HOUR

To sign up and view schedule:
Worship and Coffee Hour Schedule

PETER MAYER CONCERT

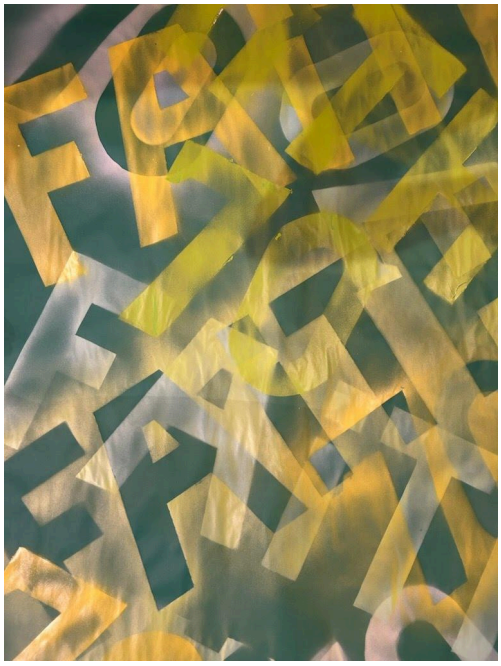
September 26
Saturday
Lutheran Church of the Living Christ
W156N10660 Pilgrim Road, Germantown
Doors open at 6:00 p.m.
Refreshments available.
Concert begins at 6:30 p.m.
Tickets: $25
To purchase: Peter Mayer Tickets
To learn more and to listen to Peter's music:
www.petermayer.net
You are invited to bring a donation of diapers, wipes, or feminine hygiene products for Casa Guadalupe.

70TH ANNIVERSARY BANNER

Terry Groh made a special banner to celebrate Faith's 70th anniversary. Here is his artist statement:

Do You See What I See?

This Faith community represents a lineage of religious beliefs and expressions, a blend of religious traditions from those who came before us and shared their insights and understanding of God, the Christian life and faith with that of our own time. The banner design is an attempt at producing a visual metaphor for the history of the ministry of Faith Lutheran Church. The seven decades of ministry by Faith are represented through the application of layers upon painted layers of the words "Faith" "70". Some patterns of ministry occurred early on in our history. Some patterns applied later are very distinctive, other aspects of our ministry have faded into the background. Some aspects of current or past ministry might even be viewed as downright backwards. None-the-less, what we are now is an expression of Faith which is a mix of old and new, that of our predecessors (the first layers, earliest layers) and that which we are now (the latest layers). Some generations' ministry may appear strong and bold while others weak and faint. Some are easy to discern, while others not so clear and again, even backwards. But altogether, the sainted members of the past and we as the current community of Faith are making our mark(s) in time.-*Terry Groh*



VBS AUGUST 2026

Who is My Neighbor?

PRAIRIE PALOOZA AND CAR SHOW

August 15

Adult Tickets: $15
Children 12 and under: $8

TO PURCHASE TICKETS: ANNIVERSARY DINNER

FAITH 70TH ANNIVERSARY MUM SALE

From Groth's Country Gardens

The flowers can be designated for either the church or for yourself. Envelopes for ordering will be available at church on August 2. Please pay with either cash or check. Pick up at church on September 17.

Cost: $22.00

- 12 inch, potted
- Tricolor, red, purple, orange, yellow or white
- Limited quantities

ORDERS DUE SEPTEMBER 14

OUTREACH FOR HOPE

RIDE RUN WALK 2026

HOPE ON THE MOVE

Morning of Saturday, September 26

Join all of your friends at the Outreach for Hope 2026 Family Ride Run Walk, and help fundraise $175K for grants to ministries serving communities experiencing material poverty in the Greater Milwaukee Synod, ELCA.

FOUR SITE OPTIONS:

Each site offers a **road** (8:30 am) and/or **trail bike ride** (9:30 am) unless otherwise noted, a **5K fun run** and a **walk** (10:30 am), followed by a **picnic** (11:30 am). There are also **fellowship-only participant** and **volunteer** options.

- **Grafton:** Meets at Grace Lutheran Church
- **Kenosha:** Meets at Petrifying Springs Park
- **Milwaukee:** Meets at Washington Park *(no bike rides at this site)*
- **Waukesha:** Meets at Fox River Sanctuary, E. B. Shurts Building

There is **no registration fee** - but we encourage you to donate and/or fundraise towards our $175K goal! **Every dollar raised supports our Ministry Partners' work** of clothing, feeding and caring for our neighbors in need.

Register + learn more at OFHRRW.org

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