



NOVEMBER 2026

FOCUS ON FAITH

Faith Lutheran Church

MESSAGE FROM PASTOR

"So teach us to number our days that we may apply our hearts to wisdom."

Psalms 90:12

Someone asked me recently if there are any Bible passages that I would eliminate if I had the choice. This gave me pause, as the Bible contains many difficult passages that I wrestle with. But I realized that these are often the very ones that have generated the most growth in me. They push me to ask questions and look more closely where I might prefer an easy answer. In some cases they have deepened my faith and my appreciation of the Bible's complex witness to God's love in Jesus Christ.

This month's Sunday readings will include some difficult passages, including themes like God's judgment and Jesus' references to "weeping and gnashing of teeth". Despite the temptation to look away, I invite you to join

me in looking more closely at them. When you encounter a passage that makes you uncomfortable, consider why you feel that way. You might even talk about it with another person, getting their perspective. What does this passage seem to say about God? How does this align with your experience? Is there something being asked of you that you hadn't considered before?

After nearly 30 years of ordained ministry, I still have passages that I don't understand. But I also find the Bible remarkable because it continues revealing things that I hadn't considered before. Feeling uncomfortable is often part of growth. We rarely grow when everything is easy! How might those passages that make you the most uncomfortable be inviting your growth? I'm grateful that we can consider these questions together!

God's peace,
Pastor John

SUNDAY ADULT FORUMS

Sundays

11:00 a.m.

November 1 and 8:

READING THE BIBLE SDRAWKCAB

(Backwards)

Led by Terry Groh

It has often been taught (and thought) that the Old Testament is prophetic (a forecaster) of Jesus' life and ministry as recorded in the New Testament Gospel narratives.

These forums will explore the concept that the Gospel accounts are woven through with reflections (looking back) at Israel's history. The early church may have expressed and validated their belief in the personhood of Jesus by allusions of him to the great religious heroes of their past. It was rooted in the understanding that God was working during the early church age, in the same way he had with their ancestors.

The first Sunday, November 1, will introduce the overall concept by comparing New Testament stories and texts with those in the Old Testament.

The next Sunday, November 8, with the same sdrawkcab (backward) looking focus, the forum will cover the life and ministry of Jesus, the miracles, passion accounts, the betrayal, trials, crucifixion and burial.

November 15: The Church Council will lead a Bible study.

BEVERAGES WITH BELOVEDS

November 6

Friday

6:00-7:00 p.m.

North 48° Bar, Cedarburg

This will be a time for fellowship and a beverage of your choice. Conversation Topic: What makes you feel beloved? All are

welcome. This event is being planned by Cory Schoofs, Tom Schoofs, and Joyce Caldwell.

STILL AND LISTENING

November 12

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!

COMMUNITY BOOK CLUB

November 23

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 *Martyr!* by Kaveh Akbar. Contacts: Cory Schoofs and Pastor Erin Coutts

CHRISTMAS CARD MAKING



December 5

Saturday

10:00 a.m.-Noon

Faith Fellowship Hall

Join us for a morning of coffee, doughnuts, and card making. Everyone will put together five pre-designed Christmas cards. You will leave with five finished cards and five envelopes, all ready to send. No crafting experience needed. All materials will be provided.

Donations to help cover supplies will be accepted at the event.

Space is limited to 15 people. **Starting November 15, sign up in person on the board in the narthex.** There is no online sign-up. This event is being hosted by Michelle Burton.

Find the Faith calendar on the Faith website under the Events and Calendar page: [Calendar](#)

NOVEMBER MISSION OF THE MONTH: ELCA HUNGER APPEAL

As members of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America (ELCA), we are called to share in God's work in the world. Fifty years ago, Lutherans in the United States launched the World Hunger appeals to stand with their neighbors experiencing hunger. Now a core ministry of the church, ELCA World Hunger embodies our hope in God's promise and our faith that God is revealed in the neighbors we accompany together.

This year, Faith is supporting ELCA World Hunger in a couple ways...

-Each Sunday in November we will have a *Noisy Offering* collected during worship by the children of the congregation.

-As with other Missions of the Month, checks can be written out to Faith indicating your gift is for ELCA World Hunger. You can also give online by going to:

www.faithlutherancedarburg.com/give

*Pick the category "Mission of the Month"

As we reflect on the ELCA World Hunger's last 50 years of ministry together, we know God calls us to respond to the needs of the world now more than ever. Thank you!

Contact: Cindy Dellegrazio

SEMINARY STUDENT UPDATE

Tom Schoofs completed his CPE training and the endorsement process. This semester he is taking Lutheran Confessions, Hebrew Bible I, Spiritual Practices, a class on professional boundaries, Preaching, and Ministry in Rural Context. In January he will participate in a Milwaukee cross cultural immersion program with Hephatha Lutheran Church and Lutheran Church of the Great Spirit.

As part of his seminary training, Tom has also started to preach at least once per month.

CONGRATULATIONS FAITH!

Members provided financial support in two very important ways,

First, as a congregation, we met the \$20,000 fund raising goal. To celebrate, Pastor John and Tom Schoofs had pies thrown in their faces at the 70th anniversary dinner. Let's see if we can get to \$40,000!



Secondly, Faith was one of the top fund raisers for the Outreach For Hope Ride Run Walk. Thank you for your donations, your support, and your participation. A special thank you goes to Joe Dorr who organized this effort!

PASTOR ELI FROM THE CORNER HOUSE/LUTHERAN CAMPUS MINISTRY

October 11

Faith donated an auction basket to The Corner House with supplies to plant a prairie.



BLESSING OF THE QUILTS

Here are the quilts the Sunrise Circle made to donate to Lutheran World Relief.



CONFIRMATION

October 25



WORSHIP ASSISTANTS AND COFFEE HOUR

To sign up and view schedule:

[Worship and Coffee Hour Schedule](#)

SHARED EPIC CHILDREN'S CHRISTMAS PROGRAM



Hear the Good News

Advent, Faith, St. John, and Trinity Lutheran Church

December 13

Sunday

11:30 a.m.

St. John Lutheran Church, Grafton

Plans are being made for the 2026 joint Children's Christmas Program. This year's program is called "Hear the Good News." It will take place at St. John Lutheran Church in Grafton on Sunday, December 13, at 11:30 AM.

Children from preschool through middle school are welcome to be a part of the production. For the program we will have opportunities for kids to read, sing solo lines, and dress up in costume. Children who play an instrument are welcome to play as part of the prelude. All the children will sing. In order to figure all of this out, please sign up your children by November 4.

Here is the link: [Children's Christmas Program Sign Up 2026](#)

Rehearsals will be on Sunday, December 6 at 11:15 AM, with a full dress rehearsal on Saturday, December 12, at 10:30 AM, and one or more in November at your home or nearby church to learn the songs.

Everyone will need to be at the 2 December rehearsals.

Contact: Lisa Wegner



Beverages with Beloveds



A church group gathering for
fellowship, conversation,
and community

November 6th • 6:00pm-7:00pm



Come as you are



North48 Bar
W62N599 Washington Ave
Cedarburg, WI 53012