

### From Pastor Nate . . . .

Welcome to our new Youth Director!

*“Wait for the LORD; be strong, and let your heart take courage; wait for the LORD!” (Psalm 27:14)*

These words of King David are taken up throughout Scripture, we are to be patient and wait on God’s timing. When we refuse to wait or take matters into our own hands we bear the consequences. We have a great reminder in the story of Abraham & Sarah who refused to wait for God’s promise to be fulfilled in giving them a son. In case you don’t remember, Sarah told Abraham to bear a child with her servant, Hagar. Mohammed, the founder of Islam, claims to be a direct descendant of Ishmael. God’s word states that Ishmael, “shall be a wild donkey of a man, his hand against everyone and everyone’s hand against him. And he shall dwell over against his kinsmen.” (Genesis 16:12) As we know, there is still today enmity between the Jews and Muslims.

Last January our congregation voted to hire a full-time Director of Youth & Family Ministry. Initially we had a few candidates express interest, but nothing worked out. As months of waiting went by it seemed as though God was not answering our prayers. At our August meeting, I told our Church Council we may have to come up with a different plan for staffing. I had basically given up hope that God was going to provide a qualified candidate. The following week I received an email asking if the position was still open. Long story short (which isn’t easy for me) God did answer our prayers in His time. Sara Stanton was approved by our Youth & Family Ministry Team and our Church Council and will begin working at Faith on Monday, October 8.

Patience is not an easy virtue. And although many times I have experienced that God will make things work out in His time, I still struggle with the waiting. Paul writes that patience or endurance produces character, and character produces hope, and hope will not disappoint us. (Romans 5:4-5) As followers of Christ we can always remain hopeful that God hears and will answer our prayers in His time.

Sara Stanton is a 2017 Concordia College (Moorhead) graduate. She has spent two summers working with youth at Green Lake Bible Camp. Sara has also facilitated Bible studies for Campus Crusade for Christ (CRU) and served on a month long mission trip to Cambodia. She brings a passion for Christ and a desire to work with youth, “nurturing their relationship with Jesus so that they are excited about experiencing His love and genuinely loving Him in return.” Sara will be installed on Sunday, October 14, during our worship service.

Together in Faith,  
Pr. Nate Bjorge

**Bring Your Bible to School Day!** happening this year on Thursday, October 4 — thousands of students across the whole country will share God’s hope and celebrate religious freedom by doing something simple, yet powerful: They bring their Bibles to school and talk about it with friends!

## President's Message

What a beautiful time of the year. Of all the seasons that God gives us here in Minnesota, fall has to be right at the top of the list.

This is the time to reflect on what has occurred during this year and how the weather changes impact our own lives. As the fall season comes and goes, so does the church's calendar and we start to settle in to our daily lives with God right beside us. Thanksgiving right around the corner and families and friends visiting during our holiday season.

I was at a department store yesterday that has their Christmas items displayed and out for sale. As visions went through my head, I saw the church and families preparing for all the festivities that will be upon us very soon. The birth of Jesus has had and will continue to have a tremendous impact on our beliefs and how we celebrate Christmas. I remember as a child, the small things we had received as Christmas presents and going to church and renewing our relationship with God. So with the fall seasons coming and winter just behind it, take time to reflect and pray that with all things coming, God will be there with you.

Rich Collins,  
Council President.



## News from the Congregational Life Committee

Bev Larsen opened our meeting with a prayer.

On September 16<sup>th</sup> there was a congregational picnic for the first day of Sunday School. It was very well-attended and a fun time of fellowship for everyone.

September 18<sup>th</sup> our team hosted the senior citizen luncheon. Kate Bjorge gave a very informative talk about the Morrison County Food Shelf. Thank you Kate for stepping up and sharing so much interesting information.

At our September meeting, we discussed various things:

- The basketball hoop is up and it looks great.
- Rich is checking on the security cameras that hopefully will be installed soon.
- Roadside clean-up will be Tuesday, September 25<sup>th</sup> with a potluck supper at Frerich's after.
- The LCMC conference will be held in Des Moines, IA October 7<sup>th</sup>-10<sup>th</sup>. Nate will announce this.  
Expenses will be paid by Faith. Two voting delegates may attend.
- Jean Stowell will no longer be on our team because she is soon moving out of town. We will all miss her! Our team does have enough members as of now, so we will not be looking for anyone to fill in.

We prayed the Lord's Prayer at the end of our meeting.

Our next meeting will be Tuesday, October 2<sup>nd</sup>.

As always, please contact any member of our team with any questions or ideas.

See you in church!

Bev Larsen

## Mission Statement

As Children of God, we are called to love, glorify and submit to the Living Christ, ministering to others by the transforming work of the Holy Spirit.



Therefore put on the full armor of God, so that when the day of evil comes, you may be able to **stand** your ground, and after you have done everything, **to stand**. **Stand** firm then, with the belt of truth buckled around your waist, with the breastplate of righteousness in place, and with your feet fitted with the readiness that comes from the gospel of peace. In addition to all this, take up the **shield of faith**, with which you can extinguish all the flaming arrows of the evil one. Take the helmet of salvation and the sword of the Spirit, which is the **Word of God**. And pray in the Spirit on all occasions with all kinds of prayers and requests. With this in mind, be alert and always keep on praying for all the saints.

**Ephesians 6:16**

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## Mission & Outreach Team News

Fall has made its arrival and with it comes many preparations. The Mission and Outreach Team is gearing up for the 25<sup>th</sup> anniversary of Operation Christmas Child. Promotional ads are already running on the radio (Word FM and Spirit 92). Faith's goal is to collect 250 boxes. Collection will be November 12-19th. Anyone who would like to volunteer to assist with the effort in any way is invited to contact Kim Mielke.

Faith sponsored a table at the Celebrate Sunbeam event held on Saturday, Sept. 29 at Atonement Lutheran Church in St. Cloud. Faith Comforters donated a quilt for the event. The quilt, featuring the Jamaican flag's colors, raised \$400 at the event's auction.

Budgeting for the new year is about to begin. Anyone who would like to suggest a ministry that Faith should consider supporting is invited to contact Pat Rioux, Mission & Outreach Team chair. Faith provides support to ministries in three categories—International Missions, State/Regional Missions and Local Missions. The team's budget comes from 10% of all contributions to Faith, as determined by our constitution and bylaws. Your support is most appreciated.

### Family Movie Night

Saturday, October 6, is the next Movie Night at Faith Lutheran Church. The featured movie is *I Can Only Imagine*, the life story of Bart Millard of the Christian band MercyMe.

Growing up in Greenville, Texas, Bart suffered physical and emotional abuse at the hands of his father, Arthur. When Arthur becomes terminally ill, he finds redemption by embracing his faith and rediscovering his love for his son. Years later, Bart's troubled childhood and mended relationship with his dad inspires him to write the hit song "I Can Only Imagine" as singer of the Christian band MercyMe.

If you can't make Movie Night on Saturdays and would like to recommend another night, please talk to Pat or Cheryl Rioux. We are open to most any night, except Wednesday, and would love to have a larger turnout. Any suggestions?

Bring a snack to share and join in the fun. Doors open at 6:45 p.m. Movie starts promptly at 7 p.m. If you have a movie that you want to recommend, again please contact Pat or Cheryl. There are a lot of great Christian films out there. We'd love to hear from you.

## Finance Team

Meeting: September 13th, 2018

- Meeting was called to order at 6:30 p.m.
- Present: George Sandy, Tom Lippert, Chris Scholl, Howard Larsen, Bob Riitters, Jim Nelson, Cheryl Rioux, Pastor Nate and Daven Hanson
- Opening prayer: Tom Lippert
- Approved April minutes: Howard/Tom/passed
- Reviewed and approved financial reports: George/Jim/passed
- The kitchen thermostat has been replaced.
- We will clean up the shed on Tuesday September 18th.
- Temperature in the worship space has been going well. Chris will speak with Roger about the cold seasons with the furnace. Turn it up to 68 for worship time and 60 for non-worship time.
- We will sell the old mower on the garage sale in the spring.
- The columbarium sprinklers have been installed and Al Bauman has offered to pay for them.
- Cheryl will speak with Pat Rioux about the possibility of a donation for the Olson's to come from the mission team budget.
- Tom will be spraying and fertilizing the lawn.
- Tom will be spraying and seeding the columbarium area.
- We chose to not look at a different insurance provider right now. Cheryl is going to take care of speaking with the agent who has been calling.
- Pastor Nate is going to speak with Jason Leibold about cutting the brush that obstructs the view of our sign for the west.
- We will put the mortgage refinance on old business, so we remember to look at it in November.
- Tom will purchase the seed, weed killer and fertilizer and use the landscape funds up. The rest will come from the general fund.
- The youth team and council will be interviewing a new person for our youth position.
- Motion to adjourn George/Howie passed
- Closed with the Lord's Prayer.
- Next meeting October 11<sup>th</sup>.

## September Council Minutes

Faith Lutheran Church Council Meeting, September 20<sup>th</sup>, 2018, 6:30 p.m.

*Present:* Rich Collins, Kennard Fellbaum, Joel Hanson, Justin Juelke, Denny Myers, Kelly Olson, Cheryl Rioux, George Sandy, Dave ZumBerge and Pastor Nate

*Absent:* Mark Pugh, Ally White, Randy Wolbeck

The meeting was called to order by George Sandy and opening prayer was led by Justin Juelke.

Denny Myers moved and Dave ZumBerge seconded to accept the agenda. Motion carried.

**Secretary's Report:** Justin Juelke moved and Joel Hanson seconded to approve the August Council minutes. Motion carried.

**Treasurer's Report:** George Sandy thanked Cheryl Rioux for her continued work on the financial reports, noting that they are much easier to read now. Cheryl reported that our net income for the year is \$23,000. Our income is at 58% of what we budgeted for and we should be at 67% so we are behind but are still under budget. Denny Myers moved and Justin Juelke seconded to accept the Treasurer's Reports for August. Motion carried.

**Pastor's Report:** Fall activities have started again. Sunday school teachers are all lined up and Sunday School began on the 16<sup>th</sup> with the Sunday School picnic. Pastor Nate will strive to be done a bit earlier with worship so Sunday School can begin on time.

Confirmation class began on September 19<sup>th</sup>. There are only 18 students this year so it's a smaller group.

Adult Education will start this coming Sunday, September 23<sup>rd</sup>.

New Member Sunday: Pastor Nate would like to set new member Sunday for November 4<sup>th</sup>. This is deer hunting opener but the people he knows of who wish to join have no issue with this. There were no objections to this date.

Many members have had health issues so Pastor Nate has continued to do many visitations.

LCMC Gathering is coming up in Des Moines, Iowa on October 7-10. We are budgeted to cover the cost of 2 members attending. This will be announced in the bulletin.

### **Old Business:**

*Youth Minister Position:* The Youth & Family Team has interviewed a new candidate. Denny Myers shared his notes regarding the interview and reported that the Youth & Family team unanimously recommends the candidate. Denny Myers moved and George Sandy seconded to make the job offer to the candidate. Motion carried.

Pastor Nate presented a compensation package proposal. The Finance Team had recommended us to stay under \$40,000/year as a total compensation. The proposal is within that budget. Justin Juelke moved and Joel Hanson seconded to approve the compensation package proposal. Motion carried. Pastor Nate also mentioned that we will need to set up the secondary office and purchase a computer. Kennard Fellbaum will look into a furniture contact.

*Family Assistance Fund:* Money continues to come in to the Family Assistance Fund. The Council will continue to look at this and distribute the money where they feel a need exists. At this time, no dispersal was approved.

*Security Camera:* The Security equipment fund has \$824 in it. The Finance Team recommends that the volunteer security team come up with a plan regarding what equipment they wish to purchase and what the cost will be. The focus will be on security cameras and specifically covering the parking lot and outside of the building.

### **New Business:**

*Lawn Maintenance:* The Finance Team would like to allow Tom Lippert a budget of \$600 to spray weeds and then reseed the lawn specifically around the Columbarium area. George Sandy moved and Justin Juelke seconded to approve the budget of \$600. Motion carried.

The Finance Team also did a large clean-out of the shed. The only remaining issue to be dealt with is the old lawn mower which needs repairs. Rich Collins will take the lawn mower as-is so the church will not need to pay for the repairs.

The meeting closed with prayer.

The next meeting will take place October 18<sup>th</sup> at 6:30 p.m.

Submitted by Sarah Kalkbrenner, Faith Lutheran Church Secretary

### **Attendance & Offering**

Sunday, September 2: 144 \$ 4,957  
Sunday, September 9: 162 \$ 4,911  
Sunday, September 16: 160 \$ 4,670  
Sunday, September 23: 140 \$