

*A Newsletter from the Worshipping Communities of*

**FAITH  
LUTHERAN  
CHURCH**

**1032 Prissel St  
Durand WI 54736  
715-672-8107**

Pastor Bethany's  
Office Hours:  
Thursdays at Faith 9-Noon



**ROCK CREEK  
LUTHERAN  
CHURCH**

**N1101 810<sup>th</sup> St  
Mondovi WI 54755  
715-875-4571**

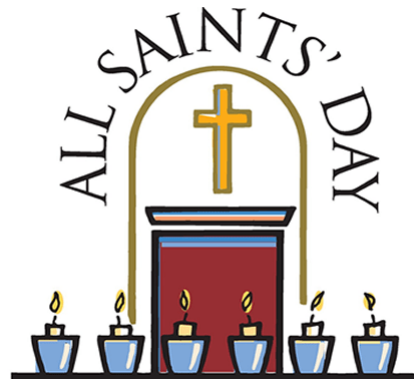
Pastor Bethany's Contact Info:  
C: 402-520-5504 H: 715-672-4634  
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*Grace  
& PEACE*  
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*from Pastor Bethany*



Advent is my favorite part of the year. Not only is it the start of a new church year, which brings new opportunities for renewed relationship with God, it is also an invitation to slow down. At a time when the rest of the world is speeding up toward the rush of the holidays, the people of God are invited to slow down and await the coming of the Christ child, which happens without any effort on our part. In the practice of waiting that accompanies Advent we are encouraged to just be still before God. Easier said than done, I know, but worth trying again this year as a grounding, spiritual practice. May you set aside some busyness this Advent season to simply rest in the presence of God. Don't rush right to Christmas, be still, know God and live into the patient waiting that is Advent.



All Saint's Day will be celebrated on Sunday, November 6<sup>th</sup>. During worship we will read names, light candles and show photos in memory of loved ones who have died. If you wish to have a loved one remembered by name please submit their name and a digital photo of them by Wednesday, November 3<sup>rd</sup> to Pastor Bethany at [frclcpastor@gmail.com](mailto:frclcpastor@gmail.com) or by text 402-520-5504.



28 people are needed to help create the 3<sup>rd</sup> annual daily Advent devotional. Last year people of all ages contributed to the writing. Advent begins November 27<sup>th</sup>. If you are willing to give writing a whirl contact Pastor Bethany at [frclcpastor@gmail.com](mailto:frclcpastor@gmail.com) or 402-520-5504. She will equip you with everything you need to write from your heart this Advent season. Everyone has a story! Will you share yours?



### November Schedule:

Wednesday November 2 Rock Creek Learning Night 5:30PM-6:30PM

Wednesday November 9 Faith Learning Night 4:30PM-5:30PM

Wednesday November 16 Rock Creek Learning Night 5:30PM-6:30PM

Wednesday November 30 Faith Learning Night 4:30PM-5:30PM

### Costume Giveaway Thanks!

Thank you to all who donated costumes, money and candy bars for the Community Halloween Costume Giveaway. We gave out all of the pumpkin baskets and close to 100 costumes. Lots of happy kids and parents left ready to celebrate Halloween because of your generosity.



### Join Us for Another Cross-Generational Gathering!

Our October Cross-generational gatherings were enjoyed by all ages who gathered for food, faith talk and bunco! Mark your calendar to join us again on December 21<sup>st</sup> for a Joint Congregation Cross-Generational Christmas Celebration at Faith. Watch the December newsletter for more details.



*"I do not cease to give thanks for you..."*



*...as I remember you in my prayers" - Ephesians 1:16*



**Synod Youth Board**

**NW Synod of Wisconsin**

Faith will be hosting members of the Synod Youth Board December 9<sup>th</sup> & 10<sup>th</sup> for a planning retreat. This is a year of rebuilding the board and all of the in-person youth gatherings. If you are 9<sup>th</sup>-12<sup>th</sup> grader this is an excellent way to learn more about being involved. Friday night will be getting to know each other over some snacks and games, then Saturday will be spent planning Christ Jam (the middle school youth gathering) that is tentatively scheduled for March. If you have any questions or plan to attend in December please let Pastor Bethany know!



Pastor Bethany will be taking some time off to enjoy with her family from November 19-25. Grace Olson, a budding seminary student, will be providing pulpit supply on November 20. Pastor Mike Vetsch will be providing pastoral care coverage as needed. He can be reached at 715-673-4991.

The Menomonie Singers Presents...



**November 12**

2:00 PM  
First Presbyterian Church  
130 W Central St  
Chippewa Falls, WI

**November 13**

2:00 PM  
Our Savior's Lutheran Church  
910 9th St E  
Menomonie, WI

*Featuring original music by Joseph Kneer*

Pastor Bethany is delighted to be making beautiful music with the Menomonie Singers. You are invited to attend one of their public performances in November. A suggested \$10 donation can be made at the door.

## **Worship Times to Switch in February**

Please note that as we head into 2023, worship times will switch at the start of February rather than January in order to accommodate some fuller plans for Annual Meeting Sundays and ensure Pastor Bethany can attend the whole of both meetings. This year our annual meetings will be followed by a ministry celebration and potluck at their respective congregations. This will be best done following late worship services. As such, worship times will switch on Sunday, February 5th.

Radio and Facebook Live worship will continue at 10:30AM.

Here is the annual meeting schedule:

Sunday, January 29<sup>th</sup> 8:30AM worship Faith

10:30AM worship Rock Creek followed by annual meeting  
and potluck

Sunday, February 5<sup>th</sup> 8:30AM worship Rock Creek

10:30AM worship Faith followed by annual meeting  
and potluck



Radio ministry is a vital part of our outreach ministry. It costs \$50/week for the radio broadcast. Most December dates are still available for sponsorship. Return this form and \$50 to Faith Lutheran Church. Consider remembering an anniversary, birthday or another milestone. Thanks to those who have already sponsored!

### **RADIO SPONSORSHIP FORM**

I would like to sponsor a Radio Broadcast (\$50/week)

Worship Date to sponsor \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_ In honor of \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_ In memory of \_\_\_\_\_

Return with check made payable to:

Faith Lutheran Church 1032 Prissel St, Durand WI 54736

## **Parsonage Sold...**

### **Update from Rock Creek Council President Steve Dahl**

The parsonage has been sold and the council will be addressing the appropriate use of the funds. Anyone with thoughts, opinions, and/or expertise is encouraged to share all with the council as investment decisions will be made. If you are interested in being on the committee to lead these decisions, your participation will be welcomed. Contact any council member to share your interest. The plan is to form a committee at the next council meeting, November 9, to lead the investment decisions and to be ready for congregational input on use of the income earned from the investments. There are lots of possibilities and correct answers so help where you can!!



## **Christmas Poinsettia orders due November 13<sup>th</sup>**

Poinsettias are available for purchase to adorn the sanctuary for Christmas Eve at Faith and Rock Creek. The cost is \$10.95. Please pay when you fill out the order. There will be an order form at both churches. Deadline for ordering is November 13th.



Help decorate the sanctuary for Advent and Christmas. All ages are welcome!  
Rock Creek – Sunday November 27 11:30AM following worship  
Faith – Wednesday November 30 5PM

### **Family of God Christmas Tree – Bring an Ornament**

Bring an ornament to Hanging of the Greens. It can be hand made or store bought, anything that is meaningful to you. We will add these to the tree for decoration. You can reclaim these after the Christmas season.

## Rock Creek Council Meeting Minutes—September 7, 2022

Those present: Steve Dahl, Becky Richardson, Carma Koller, Pastor Bethany Walker, Jill Bauer, Orlin

Berg, Nikki Bauer, Sue Dahl, Diane Nolan, Dave Coon. Absent: Bob Froystad, Riane Hayden

Steve called the meeting to order at 7:00 pm. Pastor Bethany opened the meeting with devotion.

Pastor's Report—see attached.

Secretary's Report –Motion by Becky to approve August meeting minutes, 2 nd by Sue, motioned passed, all in favor.

Treasurer's Report—discussion on Library fund, will use the money for Confirmation materials.

Reviewed July report. Motion by Sue to approve, 2 nd by Jill, motioned passed, all in favor. Reviewed

August report. Motion by Dave to approve, 2 nd by Diane, motioned passed, all in favor.

### Committee Reports

☐ Education— Sunday school is starting. It will be during the church service. No Sunday school on Oct2 due to no teachers available. There will be coffee and cookies after service and Sunday school. Need sign up to coordinate. Becky will volunteer this Sunday. Jill requested the big bulletin board, at the lower level entrance, be re installed.

☐ Youth Group/Confirmation—covered in Pastors report.

☐ Retreat follow up: Pastor Bethany will take the next step needed to move the ideas from the retreat forward.

### Old Business

☐ Parsonage Repair and back door: Dave and Bob looked at back door. Parsonage repairs on hold

### New Business

☐ Parsonage sale committee update: Becky met with Knelly. There have been three private showings and four attended the open house. Knelly recommended lowering asking price to get



more interest. Committee to decide lowering price. If the price is lowered, there will be another

open house this weekend. Orlin discussed gophers, dead branches and flower beds. He

requested 4 helpers to meet Friday to work on the grounds to spruce it up.

☐ Insurance update: Becky , Steve and Alissa met with Mike Ausing. EMC is not writing insurance

for churches. See hand out. Recommended changing to Liberty Mutual, still able to lump the

two churches together. Premium will increased but without the parsonage, our share will drop

back to current \$600-700. Motion made by Nikki to use Liberty Mutual for insurance, seconded

by Becky and motion passed.

☐ Basement water issues: Orlin reports Bob has been filling sidewalk cracks and sealing sidewalk

and next to wall. Bob extended the down spouts from the rain gutters and they would

recommend cement water runs to get water away from the wall. Carma will contact Weiser

Concrete to see if they have long down splash cement forms. The three roads leading to the

church all drain towards the church. Maybe need a curb on road to lead water north and south

of church. Becky reported Service Master bill for clean up of water after last storm could be as

high as \$4800.00. Have started the sealing process. Next get the water away from wall. If

needed, will look at curb.

☐ Microphone/Speaker: Faith is replacing their wireless mic and speaker, \$1700, including install

from Audio Architects. Cost would be less if we purchased too. Bethany will take pictures to see

if Mic would be compatible with our speakers. Dave will check with Jonah.

☐ General Questions:

Uffda dinner: Dave was thinking about new signs but due to financial cost of water will hold another year. Letters will go out soon, cost of dinner increased to \$12. Back to all events in previous pre covid years. Planning meeting 9/18/22 at 9:30  
Next meeting October 5, 2022, 7:00,  
Sue motioned to adjourn at 8:45. Closed with Lords Prayer.  
Carma Koller, RCLC Secretary

## Faith Lutheran Church

Council Meeting Minutes | August 17, 2022 | 7-8 p.m.

**Members Present:** Tiffany Webb, Greg Knoepke, Nate Walker, LeAnne. Carlson, Elissa Abramson, Kendra Weber, Pastor Bethany Walker

**Members Absent:** Val Cataract

**CALL TO ORDER** – Meeting was called to order by Elissa at 6:55 p.m.

**VISION/MISSON STATEMENT** – Church Council recited the Vision/Mission Statement of the church.

**DEVOTIONS** – Pastor Bethany shared devotions with the council; council members shared times when they felt their cup was full (or running over).

**PASTOR'S REPORT** – See report sent by Pastor; report was shared and discussed. The Council revisited the idea of having a Council retreat this fall. Elissa will connect with key stakeholders to evaluate dates that might work for a retreat and fall cleaning day. Pastor Bethany provided an update on her interim role with Central Lutheran in Mondovi. It is looking likely that her contract will end in mid-September.

**SECRETARY'S REPORT** – Motion to accept (Carlson), Second (Webb); motion carried (unanimous)

**TREASURER'S REPORT** – Treasurer's report was sent via email. The congregation received a \$5,000 anonymous donation in June. FunFest Chicken dinner netted approximately \$2,600 after expenses and giving the Swim Club their cut. Val requested approval to get Linda Talford a check card.

Kendra will be drafting a letter to appeal to the congregation to consider increasing giving and moving to EFT giving.

**TREASURER'S REPORT** – Motion to accept (Carlson), Second (Webb); motion carried (unanimous)

### **BUILDING COMMITTEE REPORT**

**Technology/Sound Updates:** Nate shared the information he received from Audio Architects to replace Pastor Bethany's lapel mic (immediate need); cost would be around \$1,700. Additional needs were discussed for the extra (nice to have stuff); hard wired mic, third TV, all in for everything would be around \$25,000. Priorities were discussed and Council will discuss with families who have earmarked dollars for this purpose for a blessing to move forward with the highest priorities.

Recommendation to move forward with the first two steps was approved by Council.

**Building & Grounds:** A couple of trees appear to have some disease and may need to be taken care of in the coming months. Nate will continue to monitor and provide updates in future meetings.

#### **EDUCATION COMMITTEE REPORT**

Pastor Bethany reports that Tracy Rosemeyer and Jean Hermann will lead the Sunday School this year.

#### **FUNDRAISING REPORT**

Profits from the chicken dinner fundraiser were reported in the Treasure's report. Discussion about a more strategic, work distributed fundraising plan was mentioned. Pastor Bethany indicated that that would be a good topic for the Council retreat.

#### **MUSIC & WORSHIP**

Worship assistant sign-up is still a challenge. We will consider new ways of getting signed up and will start passing the clip board.

#### **OLD BUSINESS**

- Parking Lot – Continues to be an issue. Will need to arrange for compaction (needs = heat, water, pressure). Nate will reach out to James about the Fire Department providing the water. Tiffany is working with Dewy and Dillon for manpower and equipment. Tiffany will continue to work to coordinate with Dewy.
- Pastor Bethany was approached by the Mondovi church about assisting with administrative pastoral duties as they search for a new pastor. Bethany would like to assist in the short term if the church Councils are supportive. FL Council agreed to support and will inform the congregation.
- Meeting schedule modifications: Request to cancel July meeting based on availability; August meeting moved to Wednesday, August 17 @ 7p.m.

#### **NEW BUSINESS:**

- Nate suggested looking at ways to partner with the local meat processors to help fill and unmet need of meat at the local food pantry.

#### **ACTION ITEM:**

**MOTION TO ADJOURN** – Carlson; Second-Webb; Motion carried (unanimous)