



A Newsletter from the Worshipping Communities of

Faith Lutheran Church
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Durand, WI 54736
715-672-8107
Pastor Bethany's
Office Hours:
Tues/Thurs at Faith 10AM-2PM



Rock Creek Lutheran Church
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from Pastor Bethany



At the start of August, I will be spending three days in Des Moines, IA with 19 other rural pastors from surrounding states embarking on a 10-month continuing education journey called The Moses Project. This special grant funded experience strives to “give rural pastors a vision of ministry that will help them thrive in congregational leadership and in turn, enhance the vitality of the congregations they serve.” I am humbled by both the Synod’s nomination on my behalf as well as the generous grant funders who make this experience possible at no charge to myself or my congregations. I trust that the Spirit will lead and guide me through this journey in ways that will translate into continued energetic, thoughtful leadership among you.



Summer
CELEBRATION

**VBS and Camp
Stories**



**Backpack
Blessing**

Sunday, August 21st

Faith 8:30AM and Rock Creek 10:30AM

Let's pause to celebrate the ministry that happened this summer through Community Unity VBS and Luther Park. Hear stories and songs from the kids who participated. Then we will bless our kids and teachers for the start of another school year.

Students and teachers: Bring your backpack to receive a blessing and gift!



All incoming 6th – 8th graders...Mark your calendars!!

Confirmation Fall Learning Nights will begin with Parent/Student Meetings

Rock Creek Students:

Wednesday, September 7th at Rock Creek 5:30PM Potluck Meal / 6PM Meeting

Faith Students:

Wednesday, September 14th at Faith 5:30PM Potluck Meal / 6PM Meeting

Bring your family, a dish to pass and your calendar!



Thanks to all who participated in the Community VBS in July. 104 kids and 30+ volunteers partnered with the Holy Spirit to make the week a faith-filled fun! Hear about the week at the Summer Celebration August 21st! Plans for Community VBS 2023 are already underway! Stay tuned!



Luther Park Bible Camp...

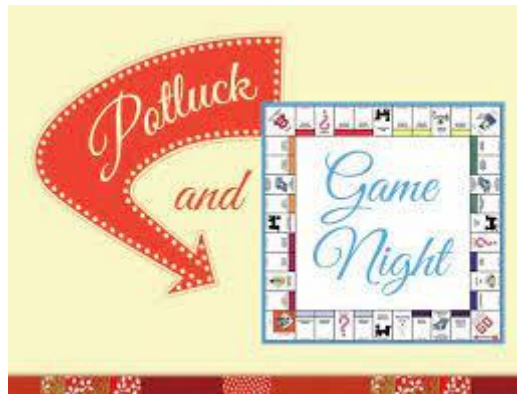
...Our Partnership with Holy Play

Pastor Bethany and campers from our congregation and community had a wonderful time at Luther Park the last week in June. Hear more about their experience at the Summer Celebration August 21!





Congratulations to Mr. and Mrs. Zachary and Marissa (Koller) Olson who were married at Rock Creek on Saturday, June 25! It was a Christ-centered and joyous celebration!



Rock Creek is hosting a Potluck and Game Night for all ages on Wednesday, August 17th at Rock Creek. Meal begins at 5:30PM followed by games. Bring a dish to pass, a favorite game, friends or family and have a fun time together!



Signing up to help with Sunday worship duties at Faith just got easier. Here is a link to an online sign up. Please find a Sunday or two to help out. The volunteer well has run dry and it is time to refill with willing helpers. Thanks!

<https://docs.google.com/spreadsheets/d/1BTjGLI9Ctb8AGkjBhAvzN70IDMgL8iqy1K7-N-2nqrw/edit?usp=sharing>

Rock Creek Parsonage Update

At the special meeting on Sunday, July 24th Rock Creek members voted to sell the church parsonage. A committee will now be formed to help with the process. If you have any interest in serving on the committee please contact Steve Dahl, Council President.

Parsonage Procession and Blessing

Worship at Rock Creek on Sunday, August 7th will conclude with a procession to the church parsonage. Through a special time of blessing we will bid farewell to the parsonage that has housed so many pastors and memories over the years. Join us for this brief but meaningful milestone moment in our church's unfolding story of God's faithfulness.

HEART FOR LUTHER PARK

Art, Craft & Quilt Auction

Sunday, August 7, 2022

9:30 Worship
10:00 Viewing of Quilts
11:00 Lunch
12:00 Auction Begins

Luther Park Bible Camp 944 24 1/4 St. Chetek, WI



Durand Area Food Pantry Board



Pastor Bethany is excited to be the newest member of the Durand Area Food Pantry Board. What an outstanding ministry this pantry is to the community!

With the 4th of July behind us, school starting is right around the corner. Last year with many monetary donations, we were able to purchase enough school supplies to fill 126 bags. We the have the bags in the narthex for you to take and fill on your own. If you are unable to go shopping for the supplies on the list, you can make a donation and we'll get the supplies for you. Please have the bags filled with the items on the list and return them to church no later than September 25th.

School Kit Supply List

- 4 – 70 Sheet Notebooks (Wide or College Rule)
NO LOOSE LEAF PAPER
- 1 – 30 Centimeter Ruler
(Or a Ruler with Centimeters on One Side and Inches on the Other)
- 1 – Pencil Sharpener
- 1 – Blunt End Scissors
(Safety Scissors with Embedded Steel Blades Work Well)
- 5 – Unsharpened #2 Pencils with Eraser
(Secured with a Rubber Band)
- 5 – Ball Point Ink Pens (Blue or Black)
(Secured with a Rubber Band)
- 1 – Box of 16 or 24 Crayons
- 1 – 2 ½ Inch Eraser

Bags are provided in the narthex. Please take a bag or bags and fill them. Please have them back to church by September 25th.



Most dates are still available from August – December! Please sponsor!
Radio ministry is a vital part of our outreach ministry. It costs \$50/week for the radio broadcast. Send \$50 to Faith Lutheran Church and include the date you would like to sponsor and who it is in memory or honor of. Consider remembering an anniversary, birthday or another milestone. Thanks to those who have already sponsored. A sponsorship form is below for your convenience. Simply print, fill out and return.

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

Rock Creek Council Meeting Minutes—May 4, 2022

Those present: Steve Dahl, Becky Richardson, Carma Koller, Pastor Bethany Walker, Jill Bauer, Diane Nolan, Orlin Berg , Bob Froystad, Nikki Bauer, Dave Coon, Sue Dahl .

Absent: Riane Hayden,

Steve called the meeting to order at 6:08 pm

Devotion will be held in joint council meeting.

EPIC (Effective Practices in Council) synod video. –will view in joint council. Steve committed on “Taking it to the Street” theme.

Pastor’s Report—reviewed in joint council, see attached.

Committee Reports

- **Education**— Jill reported Sunday school is done for the year. Not a lot of kids participated. Pastor Bethany reported a Teacher’s gift will be handed out at church service this Sunday.

- **Youth Group/Confirmation**—trying to do one activity per month. Confirmations asked how they could stay involved.
- **Adult Bible Study/Wednesday worship: Pastor reported there were small turn outs for Lenten Wednesday services but very good conversations, sometimes lasting more than an hour. As of right now, she will plan on starting Wednesday night gatherings in June.**

Covid update: No changes

Retreat follow up: Pastor has talked with a few who were interested in future meetings, just need to set a meeting time and see who can attend. She will reach out to Sue D, Kathy D, Steve D, Sandy F, and Carma to set a date. Any one else interested, just contact Bethany.

Secretary's Report --reviewed, motion by Becky to approve, 2nd by Jill, motioned passed, all in favor.

Treasurer's Report—reviewed April's report. The elevator and construction is all paid for. Flooring is paid for except the additional \$1000 for the equipment he added on but stated we did not need to pay (but council approved last month). Orlin requested Durand Sanitation be contacted for an upgraded dumpster. He will call them. Motion by Jill to approve, 2nd by Nikki, motioned passed, all in favor.

Old Business

- **Parsonage Repair and back door- on hold**

New Business

- Ceiling fans- Bob and Dave have started looking at new options with different blades and lowering them to increase air movement.
- Pastor/Parsonage transition plans: Pastor reported they looked at a home and Durand and their offer was accepted. They will close June 13 and move weekend of July 4th. Out of parsonage for sure by August 1. She has met with Steve and Becky about how the salary package changes. Rock Creeks cost to joint council will go up \$811/month. Becky explained salary package changes. See hand out. The Walkers accepted less than the 30% housing allowance the synod recommends. Housing equity will be eliminated August 1, 2022. Started discussion on keeping house and renting versus selling. Orlin recommend council each make a pro and con list of each option to be prepared at a congregation meeting for why council recommends selling or renting.
- Sound system pricing- Pastor's mics at RCLC and Faith do not work. Nikki reports she talked to Best Buy and tried an option with Nate that did not work and she returned it. Long discussion as the sound system has been troublesome for months. Dave and his family member Jonah have also tried options. The TV in the back is not working with the front. Option of adding a cable from the front to the back and moving the back TV closer. Dave will measure. Dave will ask

Jonah for more help. Nikki will call Best Buy for further recommendations. Will also discuss at joint council as Faith is having similar issues.

- **Change of worship times:** it was discussed in February to ask Faith to delay changing worship times until February to allow RCLC to have 1030 service time in January for Annual Congregational meeting. This would allow Bethany to attend and for a celebratory pot luck lunch after meeting. Need to discuss at Joint Council meeting, change worship times February 1 and August 1 instead of January and July.

Next meeting June 1, 2022, 7:00

Adjourned at 7:05 for Joint Council meeting.

Steve Re-Adjourned RCLC meeting following joint council meeting to discuss Parsonage and congregational meetings. We will hold an informal informational meeting May 15, 2022 after church service to start conversation on what to do with the parsonage

Carma Koller, RCLC Secretary

Rock Creek Council Meeting Minutes—June 1, 2022

Those present: Steve Dahl, Becky Richardson, Carma Koller, Pastor Bethany Walker, Jill Bauer, Orlin Berg, Bob Froystad, Nikki Bauer, Sue Dahl .

Absent: Riane Hayden , Diane Nolan, Dave Coon

Steve called the meeting to order at 7:02 pm

Pastor Bethany opened the meeting with devotion.

Pastor's Report—see attached. Retreat follow up plans include monthly events June –September.

Committee Reports

- **Education**— Jill and Pastor Bethany attended a VBS meeting. There are 42 kids signed up already. Adding a booth with information between the chicken dinner tent and Pie booth at Fun Fest.
- **Youth Group/Confirmation**—no activity. Kids are busy
- **Adult Bible Study/Wednesday worship:** Retreat follow up meeting decided to have fellowship time on Wednesdays 1x/month. More formal meetings will start in the Fall.

Secretary's Report —Carma asked why secretary's report was moved to the middle of the meeting. Steve reported it was recommended by Bethany to focus on Mission first at the April meeting. Carma agreed to follow the agenda but it is not logical to her to complete last month's notes/minutes in the middle of the meeting. Motion by Becky to approve secretary's report, 2nd by Nikki, motioned passed, all in favor.

Treasurer's Report—reviewed Mays report. . Orlin reported Durand Sanitation stated they a year out on upgrading dumpsters. Motion by Sue to approve, 2nd by Bob, motioned passed, all in favor.

Old Business

- **Parsonage Repair and back door- on hold-** no discussion

New Business

- Ceiling fans- Bob has not addressed anything at this time.
June 1, 2022 page 2
- Pastor/Parsonage transition plans: Steve started a sheet for pro and con to renting or selling parsonage. Discussion with additions to the sheet. **Renting PRO:** repairs needed, rental rate income, future parsonage need, land would never be recovered if sold. **CON:** repairs needed, who/how manage, Income tax or property tax is possible, damaged to property, cost of management (10% is common), unpaid rent, expenses to maintain could be more than income, “bad” renters are difficulty to evict. **Selling PRO:** Repairs needed, Sale Value, able to invest money from sale and use interest for income-set up an endowment fund, use some of the money to landscape/blacktop and improve church Curb appeal, parsonages are not advantage to calling a pastor, it’s a selling time. **CON:** repairs needed, Steve listed income tax but Orlin clarified there is no federal or state income tax with no 1099 from buyer, How to manage funds, No parsonage in the future. Discussion on all the pros and cons. Discussed informational meeting times which may be difficult to get membership attendance. Jill recommended a mailing with information meeting and congregational meeting dates to inform all members. Informational meetings will be Wednesday June 15 at 7:00 at RCLC (movie at Becky Richardsons after meeting), Sunday July 10 after church service. Congregational meeting with voting to sell or rent will be July 24 after service, with summer schedules, quorum may be difficult to attain for vote. Zoom will be available July 24. Steve will write letter to congregation members and also offer rides to a meeting.
- Joint service will be held at the River June 26, 10:30 with Potluck following. Rain location RCLC.
- Service time change will occur July 3, RCLC will move to 1030 time.
- Administrative interim: Pastor Bethany explained in her pastoral report. She has been asked to assist Central Lutheran Church July thru Sept as they search for an interim. Only concern from council was Steve asking if she had time. Informal okay from council was vocalized.
- Sound system pricing- Nikki reports she has talked to Best Buy and they will come out but they have been difficult to work with. Nikki reports Roy Splinter recommended Schlenker Sound Installation, they specialize in non profit organizations. Steve obtained information. Pastor reports the hand held mic is also draining batteries within the hour of service.

Next meeting July 6, 2022, 7:00

Motion by Becky to Adjourned at 8:13. Closed with Lords Prayer.

Carma Koller, RCLC Secretary