



# the Banner of Faith

## FAITH-LILAC WAY LUTHERAN CHURCH

JULY 2020

**SUNDAY WORSHIP  
ONLINE:**

[www.faithlilacway.org](http://www.faithlilacway.org)

**PARKING LOT:  
9:30 AM**

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# HOPEFULL!

# CONGRATULATIONS VICAR BECCA!



Early December 2018. I was running late. My dear friend was getting ordained and I drove to the wrong church. Upon that realization, I hopped in my minivan, speeding on MN-Hwy 65, due north to East Bethel, MN. I made it to the church and sprinted inside. All the clergy were in their robes, lined up in the narthex, and ready to process into the sanctuary (clergy all sit together for ordination services). I was trying to catch my breath and put on my alb (robe). The St. Paul Bishop, my bishop, was there for the service. She calmly walked over to me amidst my franticness, and whispered, “Rebecca, (\*gasp\* she knew my name!) take a deep breath. Get vested. Walk down the side aisle when you’re ready and find an open seat with the rest of the clergy.” So that’s exactly what I did. I sat down next to other pastors whom I’d never met before.

Had I been on time I would have sat next to one of my friends in the clergy section. Had I been on time, it’s possible that I never would have met Pastor Pam. She was sitting in front of me during the service. She saw me read scripture during the service and heard me singing behind her. We shook hands during the Passing of the Peace and introduced ourselves. Pastor Pam said she was a pastor at Faith-Lilac Way in Robbinsdale. I recognized the name and said, “Oh! You’re an internship site!” She said yes, but that, sadly they currently don’t have an intern. I said, “funny you should say that. I’m an intern looking for an internship site. What are you doing after the service?” And so it was that Pastor Pam and I were sitting in the youth room after the service was over having an impromptu conversation/internship interview. We hit it off right away and it felt like a good match. It took a few weeks to figure out the logistics of it all, but on March 12, 2019 I began my internship at Faith-Lilac Way. Had I been on time, it’s possible that this encounter never would have happened. I knew that the Spirit worked in mysterious ways, but who knew she could use tardiness as the means to connect a church and intern?!

I wanted to share my internship “origin story” for my last Banner article. It’s another reminder of all the ways that God works in our lives. It’s still so surreal that my time as Vicar is over. Like all good things in life, it feels both premature and also difficult to remember my existence before it. God brought me to Faith-Lilac Way. God brought me to a church that I needed and that needed me. God brought us together and intertwined our lives. For this, I will forever say, Thank you, God!

I also wanted to say thank you to all of you. Thank you for teaching me how to be a pastor. Thank you for letting me into your lives and sharing in the sacred moments. Thank you for your encouragement, patience, and feedback when I tried something new. Thank you for actively participating in our church community. Thank you for sharing you life and faith stories with me. Thank you for being open to creativity and trial-and-error. Thank you for everything.

I am honored to be a part of FLW’s long-line of vicars. I’m Intern #11 at FLW, and I know y’all keep track of the dates/years by which Vicar was here. I’ll be an easy one to remember. I’m your Covid19 Vicar. I’m the singing vicar with bright red dreadlocks and glittery shoes. This internship experience is something that I’ll never forget. I look forward to returning for visits in the future and getting to greet you all in person. Until then, may the peace of God which surpasses all understanding guard your hearts and minds until the day of Jesus Christ.

Your Sister in Christ,  
Vicar Becca

# SUMMER WORSHIP OPTIONS

This summer we will be offering lots of worship options due to the constraints of the pandemic. We hope that you will find an option that works for you! Check out our website or call the office for updates.

## PARKING LOT WORSHIP

### PARKING LOT WORSHIP FOR JULY SUNDAYS BEGINNING AT 9:30 AM!

On Sunday mornings at 9:30 AM, worship with us in our parking lot! We will be celebrating communion - you can either: Bring your own bread/cracker and grape juice /wine (safest) or pick up a prepackaged communion cup/wafer. Park your car facing the church building and tune your FM radio to 104.9 FM. (If you have a taller vehicle, please park in the second row so people in shorter cars can see.) We also have speakers during Parking Lot worship. So, if you prefer, you can bring a lawn chair, set up the chair(s) outside (family groups 6 feet apart) and join the service that way!

The bulletin for the service is online. Please print out, bring, and use it for the worship service. You can also look at it on your phone during the time of Parking Lot Worship. A few copies will be available for pick-up but it is safest to print it out at home.

104.9 FM is currently the best channel for us to use. However, we do not own it so please check the instructions on the whiteboard as you enter the parking lot.

The FM transmitter that we are able to use extends only a short distance - Robbinsway residents may be able to listen from home - but that's about the extent of the listening area.

## WORSHIPPING ONLINE WITH FLW

**July 5:** Special guest preacher, Rev. Kelly Chatman, from Redeemer Lutheran and the Minneapolis Area Synod will be featured for our online service as part of a special online worship service created by the Minneapolis Area Synod for this day.

We will continue to offer online worship services complete with liturgy, scripture, a message and music. To access, go to our website: [www.faithlilacway.org/online-worship](http://www.faithlilacway.org/online-worship)

## HOLY COMMUNION

### HOLY COMMUNION BY ZOOM!

**Zoom Mini-Communion Services: First and Third Sundays July 5 and 19 at 10:30 AM**

(No Zoom Communion on Sunday, July 12 or 26)

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/98882846617?pwd=eVV0TWIveTluN1pZWdN4L3ZkMnNHQT09>

Meeting ID: 988 8284 6617

Password: 335870

Or by phone: +1 312 626 6799

## PASTORAL CARE

Have a prayer request? Need a visit or a call?

Contact: Pastor Pam Stalheim Lane at [pastorpam@faithlilacway.org](mailto:pastorpam@faithlilacway.org)

# DEVOTION FROM PASTOR PAM

## SELECTED PSALM SUMMER SERIES:

**This summer, I will be posting on our Facebook devotions from the Psalms and sharing some of them with you in the newsletter. Let's start at the beginning - please read Psalm 1 from your Bible.**

The first Psalm compares the life of a happy, righteous person and the wicked person. It seems a bit simplistic as if either you are righteous Or you are wicked. But what the psalmist is doing is inviting the reader and the listener into a relationship with God that is centered on God's word and God's way. The middle verse is the key: Those who follow God's way are "happy" or some versions say, "blessed." They are **like a tree planted by streams of water, which bears fruit at just the right time and whose leaves don't fade. Whatever they do succeeds.** A tree that is well watered is healthy – it has deep roots, produces fruit and leaves. And that, the Psalmist argues is what the happy or blessed person will experience.

This doesn't mean that life will always be good or easy for people of faith – as we will see as we explore the psalms, far from it. Often the Psalmist will complain that people who do wrong become wealthy and receive rewards and do better than God's faithful people. But this first Psalm, a wisdom psalm and invites the reader and the listener to orient their life to God, to be open to God's instruction and that this... in itself will lead to happiness and will be the blessing in their life.

Let's pray: Holy God, Open our ears to your Word so that we are open to not only hear your way but help us to do it. In Jesus' name. Amen.

### **Psalm 13 I invite you to read the whole Psalm in your Bible.**

I needed a Psalm of lament today and thought.. maybe you do too. The Psalm begins: "How long O Lord? Will you forget me forever?...How long must I wrestle with my thoughts and every day have sorrow in my heart? How long?"

There are times in our lives that we just have to lament. And there is much to lament these days. We lament the death and dying caused by the coronavirus, Covid19. We lament police brutality. We lament the unnecessary death of George and Jamar and Philando and Breonna AND the list goes on. We lament the racism that is revealed just under the surface of our culture. And we lament our own losses too. We cry out to God, HOW long O Lord?

The Psalmist challenges God, saying, "Look at me and answer O God... give light to my eyes." Answer me.

Now maybe you wonder... can I do that? Can I challenge GOD? And the answer is, "YES. Absolutely. God can take all your questions and challenges. God wants to hear them because God wants to be in relationship with YOU. God wants to hear your hopes and dreams, your laments and your challenges. This doesn't mean that God will do whatever you want. Lots of people have been praying and we still have a pandemic and we still have racism.

After boldly challenging God, the Psalmist writes... "BUT I trust in your unfailing love and my heart rejoices in your salvation." What happened? Did God answer the prayer and the Psalmist is thanking God? Or did God change the Psalmist?

I don't know. But I do know this: heartfelt prayer makes a difference. It changes me and it changes my situation so that I can sing with the Psalmist: I will sing to the Lord, for he has been good to me." Thanks be to God for hearing our prayers and making a difference in our lives. Amen.



# VBS FOR ALL AGES!

## WE ARE STILL HOPEFULL!

### **WILDFIRE Churches Offer VBS Camp in a Box for ALL AGES!**

You and your family are invited to Vacation Bible School (VBS) for ALL AGES (3 through Adult) with Camp Wapo and the Wildfire Churches (Faith Lilac Way, First Lutheran, Holy Nativity, House of Hope, and St. James)! This will be five weeks (**July 12th-Aug 15th**) of fun, opt-in activities throughout the week including arts/crafts, games, as well as videos of skits, music, and devotions from Wapo.

Our verse is: "**May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace in believing, so that you may abound in hope by the power of the Holy Spirit**" from Romans 15:13. Each week we will focus on a part of that verse - being Hope-full, Joy-full; Peace-full; Faith-Full and Power-Full. We will have take home materials ready at church for each family that registers. There are color sheets and other materials for adults as well as children. There is no cost to participate but donations to help pay for the supplies are welcome! (The camp boxes cost \$25 each but we do not want the cost to keep anyone from participating.) Scholarship boxes are available.

EVERYONE will start VBS on Sunday, July 12th! If you haven't done so already, please register for a Camp Box!

Here is the link: [https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSdsxzAXIV2auofeQAbtYLIHmevBfyfQX9i3glqr4T7\\_w9D0YA/viewform?vc=0&c=0&w=1](https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSdsxzAXIV2auofeQAbtYLIHmevBfyfQX9i3glqr4T7_w9D0YA/viewform?vc=0&c=0&w=1)

You can also use this QR Code!



## VBS SCHEDULE

July 12

**HOPEFULL**

Paul and Silas in Prison

July 19

**JOYFULL**

Mary visits Elizabeth

July 26

**PEACEFULL**

Jesus stills the storm

August 2

**FAITHEFULL**

Jesus heals a paralytic

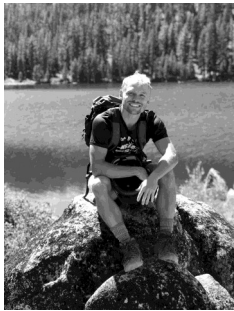
August 9

**POWERFULL**

Mary's Song



# CHAPLAIN'S CORNER



Austin Krohnke is a seminary student studying Clinical Pastoral Care (CPE) and serving as a chaplain with the Wildfire churches this summer. You can often find him in the Faith-Lilac Way library. He is looking for people to share their stories and those who need a listening ear. If that describes you or someone you know, please contact the church office and we will put you in contact with Austin.

Austin has also been working on a devotion series that he is posting to our Facebook page. See below for an invitation to join him.

Exodus, coming from two Greek words, literally means “way out.” Specifically, the Book of Exodus is the story of the people of God walking the road out of slavery and into freedom. It is one of the cornerstone stories of the Old Testament, shared generation after generation as a reminder of God’s saving action in the world, and it shapes the very framework that Jesus of Nazareth inherits as the Messiah who brings Good News of great joy to all people (Luke 2:10).

As I search for meaning amidst the implosion of white supremacy during a pandemic, my heart has been gripped with parallels between the Exodus story and our modern American context. Where is God in our troubling times? I desperately ask this question as I grieve all the loss and injustice. This book of the Bible gives me a lens to see God working in the world.

I invite you to join me on Facebook. I will also have printed copies that I can mail or email to you. Just let me know!

-Austin

## THANK YOU

**Minneapolis Area Synod** We are grateful for your churches commitment to mission support that keeps the work of this church moving in response to the spirit. The world has not only lived through a devastating disease, but the inequity and injustice that is around us also. We grieve this reality– and yet believe that this is the call of the church in this time and place. We are deeply grateful for your faithful leadership and for being church together where the love of God is made known.—Minneapolis Area Synod

**Can Do Canines** Thank you for your continued support of Can Do Canines and for making more assistance dogs possible. The \$90.00 gift was received in the Can Do Canines office on June 5. This Donation will provide many more quality assistance dogs to people at no charge in the year of 2020. Your support will directly provide independence, freedom, and peace of mind every day to people living with Can Do Canines assistance dogs. Thank you!  
—Can Do Canines

**From Vicar Becca!** To the FLW Congregation: Thank you so much for the thoughtful farewell gifts given to me on June 14. I love my lilac prayer shawl. I can’t wait to design my own red stole! I’ll be sure to send pictures of it. Also, be looking for an ordination invitation sometime in 2021. I hope many of you will be able to help me celebrate that day! Thank you also for my AWESOME Twins jersey! It’s hanging in my home office and I can’t wait to wear it to Target Field when baseball resumes. Thank you for showering me with love!



## HEALER OF OUR EVERY ILL

... give strength and resilience to all our medical teams and caregivers caring for people who are ill with covid 19. Be with those who are in need of healing, health and wholeness, especially

**Donna Benson, David Bjorkquist, JoAnn Bloom, Helen and John Brandon, Jacqueline Butkowski, Sandy Dolence, Beverly Evans, Bob Fernelius,, Brad Hesslund, Ruth Kuder, Casey Pendzimas, Herb Scheelk, Dan Schumacher, Cori Vallis, and Lucas Wiste.**

Surround these and all those who you know need love and care.

**Holy Spirit, we give thanks for your presence with us always, when we celebrate the life of those who have lived long and well and when we grieve the loss of those who have died too soon. We give thanks for the long life of Roger Erickson and commend him to your loving arms. But we grieve the loss of those who have died, in our minds, too soon. Surround the family and friends of David Olson, the husband of Heather and father of Noah and Lily and grandson-in-law of the Woolgars. Be with the family and friends of George Floyd who died at the hands of the police. Provide comfort and a way forward for each family. We also ask your help in challenging and correcting the racial injustice that has been a stumbling block to being the beloved body of Christ that you intend us all to be.**

All of this, and whatever else that you know that we need, we offer in Jesus' name.

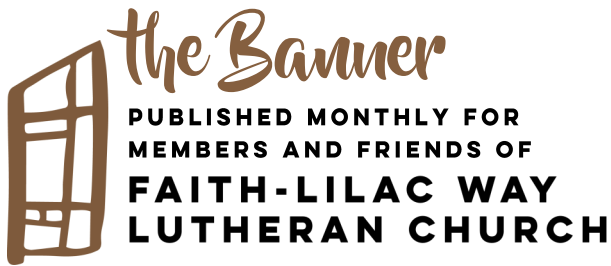
*Amen.*

## JULY BIRTHDAYS

Pray for, call, email, send a note to these members as they celebrate their birthdays this month. To correct or add a birthday, call the office (763.537.4523) so we can update our records. Thank you.

|                  |   |
|------------------|---|
| 1 <sup>st</sup>  | Nina Joygaard                                       |
| 2 <sup>nd</sup>  | Herb Scheelk  |
| 3 <sup>rd</sup>  | Steve Stobbs  |
| 6 <sup>th</sup>  | Todd Hartjen  |
| 10 <sup>th</sup> | Larry Kuder   |
| 12 <sup>th</sup> | Brenna Vierzba                                      |
| 21 <sup>th</sup> | Joyce Zabinski<br>Tom Overman                       |
| 24 <sup>th</sup> | Kathy Feyen<br>Tiana Love                           |
| 25 <sup>th</sup> | Marion Hinz<br>Katie Hyduke<br>Brittini Johnson     |
| 30 <sup>th</sup> | Helen Brandon<br>Daniel Fernelius<br>JoAnne Perkins |
| 31 <sup>st</sup> | Robert Wertz  |





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## JULY MISSION OF THE MONTH: ELCA WORLD HUNGER

ELCA World Hunger, is the July 2020 mission of the month. In our world today more than 820 million people go hungry each day. As members of this church and of the ELCA we are called to respond, and help these people that are in need of nutrition.

### Hunger facts

- 821 million people around the world - that's more than 1 in 10 - can't access the food they need to live active, healthy lives.
- According to the most recent estimates, 736 million people live in extreme poverty on less than \$1.90 per day.

- That's 10% of the world's population. At some point in 2017 (the most recent year available), more than 40 million people in the United States were unsure where their next meal might come from.
- 39.7 million Americans were living in poverty in 2017. For a family of four, this means their annual household income was below \$25,094.

With your giving you are breaking the cycle of hunger and poverty. You are providing sustainable resources to those in need which include health clinics, water wells, community meals and more. Thank you for your generosity.