

Faith-Lilac Way Lutheran Church

February Banner 2022

(763) 537 4523 | Faithlilacway.org

5530 42nd Ave N, Robbinsdale, MN 55422



Pastoral Article

Do you like change?

If someone asked me that question, I would probably say, "It depends."

Some change is expected and even desirable. I like the change of seasons. Even though January in Minnesota can have some brutally cold days, I know I have hot summer days to look forward to – and I have friends who on those hot hot summer days are glad that cooler days are coming. Change keeps things interesting. Can you imagine being the weather forecaster in Arizona? Another sunny, dry day! Likewise, it would be pretty dull if you had to eat the same thing every day (Remember how the Israelites, after being freed from slavery, complained bitterly about having manna every day – even though it was a life-saving gift from God?!) And what child doesn't look up at the "big kids" and want to change to be "big" too?!

But some change is hard. Some changes we would not choose for ourselves. It is hard to lose a loved one, a job, the ability to do something that you love to do. And it is hard when finances are tight and change seems necessary.

At the end of 2020, we had a surprising bonus. But in 2021, we fell short. We have often made up the deficit in December. This year, we did not. Thankfully, the PPP loan was forgiven and so we were able to cover most of our shortfall.

As a council, rather than assigning blame or denying that there was a shortfall, we decided to take a fresh look at our assets. What do we have to offer? What do we want to maintain? What are we willing to share? Again, change can be hard. But it can also provide opportunities for new ways of doing things, new partnerships and new possibilities. It is an opportunity to think creatively and intentionally about our mission and our vision for the year(s) to come, trusting that God is with us – and will lead us as we seek to do God's work in our congregation and the world around us.

One of the things that we value is our relationships with our partners. In our budget, we are maintaining our partnerships – at the same level – with the missions we share and support: The ELCA and our Synod, Lutheran Social Services, Luther Seminary, Near Foodshelf, Every Meal, ELCA World Hunger, Meals on Wheels and Lake Wapogasset Bible camp.

Another relationship that we value is our partnership with our Wildfire churches. In this budget, we are proposing to set aside some funds (\$1000) for a joint grief group. We are also proposing to share our intern for the 2022-2023 year with one or more of our Wildfire partners. Three of the Wildfire congregations already share an intern and there is interest in one or two sharing with us. Our Wildfire Faith-Practices and Neighboring Practices cohort is also exploring new ways to fulfill our mission to share God's love with our congregation and our neighbors. We are a part of the body of Christ and do not and should not operate alone. God gave us partners in ministry!

I believe that the best changes come when they are made intentionally and prayerfully, trusting in God to lead us and direct us. And I believe that this is just what God wants to do. It's God's mission. Please join me at the Annual meeting for a discussion of God's mission (see page 5)

Hoping and trusting in God's possibilities, and counting on *you* to be a part of God's mission,



Prayers

In this season of Epiphany, a time in which we remember the ways that Jesus has been revealed and pay attention to the work of God in our midst, we lift up in prayer those who are hurting and in need of healing, caregivers, all those who are mourning, and all in need of God's care.

Holy Spirit, spread your healing wings upon those who have ongoing health concerns including: **Lois Anderson, Donna Benson, Carol Brown, Jacqueline Butkowski, Larry Geer, Carolyn Lageson, Joyce Merkel, Margaret Pendzimus, Lucas Wiste, and Vic Woolgar .**

We give thanks for the saints who have gone before us, and ask for your comfort those who mourn. We thank you for **Brad Hesslund** and ask that you surround his wife Diane and her family with your love and care. Thank you for **Laurie Schumacher** and ask for your comfort for Dan Schumacher and their sons Ryan and Taylor. We remember before you **Brandy Day** and ask that you be with her mother Jennifer and their family. We also remember **Herb Scheelk** and we pray that you provide his family with strength and hope as they mourn his passing.

Hope Beyond Loss

**Grief/Loss support group sponsored by
Wildfire Churches**

Hosted in March by First Lutheran of Crystal:
7708 62nd Ave N,
Brooklyn Park, MN 55428

March 3, 10, 17, and 24. 2:00 – 3:30 pm.
Moderated by Parish Nurse Debbie Haney
Suggested donation: \$20 for the four weeks
Scholarships are available.

See Pastor Pam or Vicar Kyle for more information.



Vicar Article

I have now reached the halfway point of my internship and I really appreciate the support and hospitality that I have received from the Faith-Lilac Way community. I am enjoying this time of learning and growing as I have had numerous opportunities to preach, teach, and to provide pastoral care as part of my ministry.

Now that I have had the chance to meet many of you and to become familiar with this congregation I am now preparing to start my internship project. My project is going to involve doing what I am calling "internal outreach" to the Faith-Lilac Way community. During the pandemic life has changed so much in all areas and that includes our congregational life as well. One of the goals of this project is to reach out to each household and find out how people are doing and if they have any spiritual or prayer concerns. Another goal is to find out how people have stayed connected to Faith-Lilac Way during the pandemic and to give our members a chance to communicate anything that they would like to see the church provide related to ministry or programming. Finally, it will also be an opportunity for you to ask questions about how to access our online resources particularly our new worship livestream which now makes it possible for us to be together as one community at the same time even when we are not physically present together in the same physical worship space.

As part of this project I am looking to recruit a group of volunteers who would be willing to reach out and facilitate conversations with members of our Faith-Lilac Way congregation either on the phone, in person, or over Zoom. Volunteering for this ministry will be a great way to help build relationships and increase the connections within our faith community.

I am looking forward to these conversations and hearing about your Hopes for Faith-Lilac Way.

Vicar Kyle Anderson

Adult Education

Jan 30 - Discussion of the proposed budget led by Tommy Thompson, outgoing President, Sue Ferkingstad, incoming President and Mary Weilage, outgoing Treasurer.

Feb 6 - Annual meeting at 10 AM instead of adult class.

Feb 13 - This session will be an internship update from Vicar Kyle.

Feb 20 - Vicar Kyle will facilitate a discussion about the problem of plastics pollution and introduce a new initiative from the Minneapolis Area Synod to learn more about the problem and how we can reduce our use of plastics.

Feb 27 - Lean into Lent. We begin Lent on Ash Wednesday, March 2. We will be exploring how we can use the season of Lent as a time of spiritual renewal and rebirth.

Join us in person or on Zoom!

Zoom link: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/98882846617?pwd=eVV0TWIveTluN1pZWdN4L3Z>
Meeting ID: 988 8284 6617 **Passcode:** 3350870 **Or call:** +1 (312) 626 6799

Mission of the Month

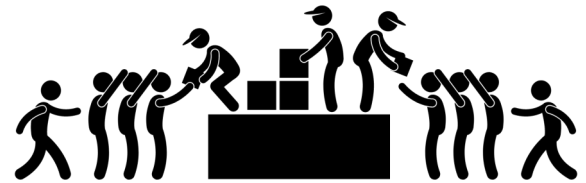
Every Meal Annual Fundraiser is sadly NOT happening due to COVID.

However, our EveryMeal team goal is to raise \$40,000.00 which will cover the cost of food for participating children in Lakeview, Forrest and Meadow Lake elementary schools for the 2021-2022 school year. The team is hoping to host a fundraiser this summer to meet this goal. Meanwhile, Faith-Lilac Way can help with this effort by making donations to FLW with Every Meal noted on the check's memo line.

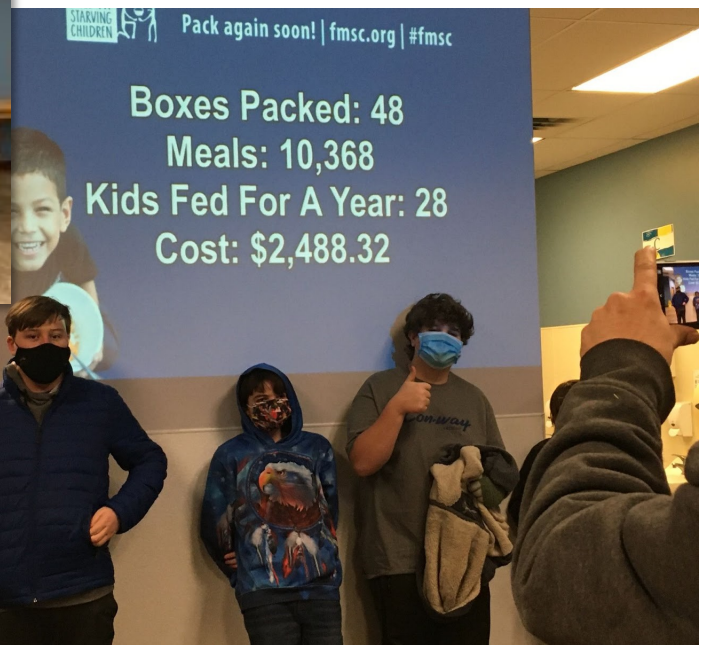
Join us in the fight against child hunger as our Wildfire congregations provide food each week for the children who are food insecure. Volunteers from each church delivers food to a child's backpack at their school with safe, culturally specific food items.

FLW volunteers this year are Steve and Sue Ferkingstad, Mark Overman, Vicar Kyle Anderson and Linda Fernelius.

We're fighting child hunger because no child should be hungry!



Wildfire Confirmation Students & Chaperones Made a Difference!



This is what
discipleship looks
like in a pandemic!

Book Club!

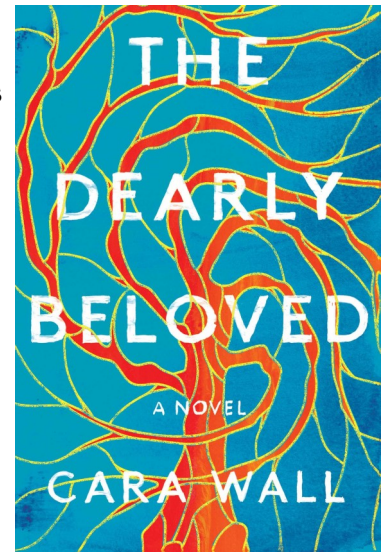
Like to read? Like to discuss what you read?

Join Book Club for great conversation of a great book!

Thursday, February 24 at 7 PM on zoom

The Dearly Beloved by Cara Wall

In *The Dearly Beloved*, Cara Wall reminds us of “the power of the novel in its simplest, richest form: bearing intimate witness to human beings grappling with their faith and falling in love,” (Entertainment Weekly, A-) as we follow these two couples through decades of love and friendship, jealousy and understanding, forgiveness and commitment. Against the backdrop of turbulent changes facing the city and the church’s congregation, Wall offers a poignant meditation on faith and reason, marriage and children, and the ways we find meaning in our lives. *The Dearly Beloved* is a gorgeous, wise, and provocative novel that is destined to become a classic.



Contact the office or Pastor Pam for the zoom link!

You are Invited!

Ordination and Installation of
Kristin Elizabeth Dybdal

Sunday, February 13, 2022 at 2 PM
Mount Olivet Lutheran Church of
Plymouth
Plymouth, Minnesota



February Birthdays!

Corliss Vallis	2nd
Kyle Anderson	3rd
William Rosenberg	10th
Mesa Vierzba	11th
Brian Blackman	13th
Wyatt Wiste	15th
David Fernelius	16th
Christine Evenson	18th
Grace Whitney	18th
Ruby Johnson	19th
Joyce Merkel	20th
Miranda Hortenbach	21th
Lois Anderson	25th
Beverly Maas	28th
Sarah Peloquin	28th

Covid Guidelines

Jesus calls us to love and care for each other, especially those who are vulnerable:

- **Masking is required for unvaccinated people**
- **Masking & physical distancing is recommended**



We are Streaming Worship Live!

Thanks to Karsten Skoglund-Anderson's videography skill, we have been pre-recording our worship since shortly after the pandemic began in 2020. At that time, we assumed online worship would be for a few months. However, the council determined that it was clear that online worship, as a component of our worship offerings, is here to stay. Now, thanks to a generous memorial gift, we were able to work with WNAV, an audio visual and installation company, to order and install the equipment. They will also help train people to use it. According to Rory Joygaard, the application is fairly straightforward. Interested in exploring being on our worship streaming team?

(Training will be provided!) Please see Pastor Pam, Vicar Kyle or Rory Joygaard. To view our livestreams, visit the link below on Sunday!

<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCREtAynTieAHtokVUMMf5Nw>



Thank you!

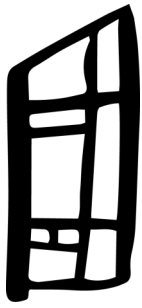
Acknowledgments

On behalf of **Lutheran Social Service of Minnesota**, thank you for your recent gift of \$400. For 156 years, congregations like yours have been essential partners in our mission, helping us grow from a church basement to offer services in all 87 counties of our state. Together we are neighbors helping neighbors.

Thank you for the recent gift of \$250 to **Luther Seminary**. We deeply appreciate your generous support and the innovative impact that it makes on the church and on the world.

How wonderful to receive your generous donation of \$1,135 to support the launch of the first-ever Lutheran University in Nigeria! On behalf of the **Minneapolis Area Synod** and our companion synod, the Lutheran Church of Christ in Nigeria, we extend our sincere gratitude.

Thank you for your gift of \$250 to **ELCA World Hunger**. Your generosity is getting at the root of hunger and poverty in over 60 countries. It is providing access to clean water, health care, agriculture, livestock, education, and peace in an effort towards a just world where all are fed.



Faith-Lilac Way Lutheran Church

February Banner 2022

(763) 537 4523 | Faithlilacway.org

5530 42nd Ave N, Robbinsdale, MN 55422

ADDRESS SERVICE
REQUESTED

Nonprofit Org.
U S Postage Paid
Twin Cities MN
Permit NO. 1589

All Are Welcome!

Join us online every Sunday at faithlilacway.org where we have all our video services, printable bulletins, and sermons to read along with! Also visit our Facebook page at facebook.com/faithlilacway where we post updates and encouraging bible verses to brighten your day!



For those who are comfortable visiting the church, the sanctuary is open to all! Every Sunday at 9:30 AM we have worship in the sanctuary as well as in the parking lot! See page 6 for more information and options to join us in worship!