

July Faith-Lilac Way Lutheran Church

5530 42nd Avenue North. Robbinsdale, MN. 55422
(763) 537 4523 | Faithlilacway.org

We love: Goats, Chicks, Bees, Fish and... Pigs?!

Our VBS kids learned about God's creation and about God's love for them and their neighbor. They also learned that no matter how small, everyone can make a difference! Our July Mission of the month, ELCA World Hunger, partners with local organizations all over the world to provide animals and support to sustain families.

See pictures inside!

***For I was hungry
and you gave me
food, I was thirsty
and you gave me
something to drink,
I was a stranger
and you welcomed
me.***

– Matthew 25:35



Pastor Article

Let Freedom Ring!



How do you celebrate freedom? Most of us will celebrate on the 4th of July. Some families will gather for picnics and parades (I think they are happening this year!) and many of us will watch fireworks (in person or on TV or online) and this year, since it falls on a Sunday, we can begin our 4th of July celebration at church!

But I also will be remembering June 19th, which was made an official National holiday of freedom this year. Juneteenth is a special day of freedom because it marks the day in which ALL Americans were freed.

According to PBS (Public Broadcasting Station), the story of Juneteenth “begins in Galveston, Texas, on June 19, 1865 when enslaved people there were told of their emancipation. They had technically already been freed when President Abraham Lincoln issued the Emancipation Proclamation on January 1, 1863 - two and half years earlier. But they did not know it! It wasn’t until Major Gen. Gordon Granger, leading a group of Union soldiers, came to Galveston, Texas and proclaimed: "The people of Texas are informed that, in accordance with a proclamation from the Executive of the United States, all slaves are free." That day, 250,000 enslaved people were freed - and despite the encouragement to stay and work for wages from their former employers, many left the state immediately, seeking to reunite with family members who had been sold or taken to other places during slavery.

This year, on the 4th of July, let us celebrate the freedom we share as citizens of this country. But let us also remember that we are all freed in Christ and that all people, regardless of nationality, are to be treated as siblings - as our brothers and sisters. It is Christ who has freed us from all that seeks to bind us and separate us and make us - or someone else - “less than.” The amazing power of God’s Good news Gospel is that we are all One in Christ. Let us celebrate the freedom we have in Christ to love and care for one another.

Prayers

*Gracious God, be with those with on-going health concerns including: **Ramona Anderson, Donna Benson, Craig Blackman, Carol Brown, Jacqueline Butkowski, Bob Fernelius, Larry Geer, Brad Hesslund, Carolyn Lageson, Joyce Merkel, Margaret Pendzimus, Herb Scheelk, Linda St. John, Lucas Wiste, and Vic Woolgar.***

*Comfort those who lost a loved one, including Debbie and Jeff Bren on the death of Debbie’s oldest son **Josh Luoma** and the family and friends of **Beverly Evans**. These and all those who need your care we lift up to you in Jesus’ name. Amen.*



Vicar Article

A Word of Thanks, Dear Ones...

It is July, and I find myself wondering just where June went (and come to think of it, March, April, and May). This means that I have about four weeks left in which to serve you, and this will be my last Banner article.

Have any of you heard of the Enneagram? (If not, the Enneagram is a wonderful spiritual tool that helps us understand our personalities better; you should check it out sometime!) I am a strong Enneagram Type 6, which means that on the plus side I tend to be loyal and relational, and I thrive when I feel supported by others. On the negative side, it is very hard for me to leave those to whom I have grown attached.



Vicar Kristin

You, Faith-Lilac Way, have won my heart, and indeed, it will be hard for me to leave you.

Even with the difficulties (and oddities) of interning during a pandemic, you, dear church, showed up for me in glorious ways. Along with Pastor Pam, you opened up opportunities for me to get to know you; and to learn, thrive, and grow into my pastoral call. As I have said before, I did not envision an internship in which Facebook devotions, preaching into a camera or into a sea of cars in the parking lot, or getting to know members primarily through Zoom would be the norm. Well, for much of the year, anyway.

Still, you, through the work of the Spirit, delivered what I needed to be prepared for and confident in my next step into my first call. My most important learning from my year with you is knowing that I can trust in how I hear from God and that I can move forward in good courage to share the love of Christ with others.

Endings are certainly not my favorite part of life (maybe not for you either). But in this ending, I glimpse even more beautiful beginnings: the ongoing fruit of your work on behalf of training new leaders in the church. Never forget that showing up as you do for interns like me is an incredibly important ministry and witness to the love of Christ in the world.

As I move into my first call process with the Minneapolis Synod, I thank you for your generosity, your wisdom, and your friendship. For these and the many gifts of internship you have shared, "O Lord my God, I will give thanks to you forever." (Psalm 30:12)

Peace be with you always.



Learning Bible songs was very good!



Playing games was very good!



God created the world - and we can be creative too!



Bible story time was very good!

**“God saw everything that He had made, and indeed, it was very good!”
- Genesis 1:31**

The kid’s offering to ELCA World hunger will provide each of the animals that they studied. One family will receive 10 Chicks (an ongoing supply of eggs and income); other families will receive 1 Goat (fresh goat milk and cheese); honeybees (honey to eat and beeswax for soaps and candles); a Pig (a great source of fertilizer and food) and another neighbor will receive a share in a fish farm. Through our Mission of the Month, we can follow the lead of our VBS Kids and provide a whole barnyard of animals for those who are hungry and in need of sustainable food. Mark your special offering for ELCA World Hunger.





Upcoming Events

You are invited to Bev Evans Memorial service on Saturday, July 17th at Faith-Lilac Way. Visitation is at 10 a.m. The service begins at 11 a.m followed by a reception at 12:15 p.m. There will be a private family internment. In lieu of flowers, memorials are preferred to the MS Society or to Faith-Lilac Way Lutheran Church.

FLW Book Club!

Come all book lovers to our next meeting outside, July 8 at 7pm. It is apropos that we are reading *The Summer Book* by Tove Jansson, which, according to the New York Book Review, "distills the essence of the summer--its sunlight and storms--into twenty-two crystalline vignettes." Won't you join us?

Email Vicar Kristin at vicar@faithlilacway.org



Wildfire Churches Host Community Voices



Wildfire Churches present Community Voices, featuring one or more state, local, school or non-profit leaders in conversation with a pastor from one of the Wildfire congregations. The speakers will share what they perceive to be the most serious challenges facing residents in our community and how congregations and individuals can help create solutions. St. James will host **Ellie Krug on Wednesday, June 30 @ 7 PM.** (It will also be online.)

Following CDC guidelines, people who are vaccinated no longer need to wear masks inside the building (but you may). We ask that those who are **not yet vaccinated continue to wear masks and maintain physical distance** for the sake of their own health and that of their neighbor. We also ask that anyone who is ill please stay home and watch online!

Covid-19 Updates

Bishop Ann Welcomes Faith-Lilac Way into MPLS Area Synod Program:



“In this first quarter of the 21st century, we recognize a need for renewed congregational imagination, and believe that immersion in ‘faith practices’ and ‘neighboring practices’ can foster that. Even more, these practices deepen faith in God, enhance relationships within congregations, and contribute to the flourishing of local communities and the world.”

- Bishop Ann Svenningsen

Thriving Congregations: Faith Practices and Neighboring Practices

Renewing Congregational Imagination is a two-year learning community for congregations in the Minneapolis Area Synod. We believe that vital congregations provide meaningful life-long faith formation and authentically engage with their neighborhood, trusting that God is already active in the community beyond the church’s walls. We are so excited to begin learning together and to examine those holy habits that sustain our relationship with God (Faith Practices) and those practices that sustain our relationship with our neighbors and our community (Neighboring Practices). Each month we’ll gather with our learning cohorts to explore essential practices, to hear and share stories of faithful community engagement, and to support one another on a path towards becoming communities of practice. We hope that when these two years are complete you will have experienced a wealth of new habits that will deepen your faith and your connection to your neighbor. Practices only work if we practice them, and much of our work will be establishing and building systems and relationships that hold us accountable and invite us again and again into relationship.

We are overjoyed to be accompanying you over the next two years, and pray that together we will embody Jesus’ vision of discipleship laid out in Luke’s Gospel, “You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, and with all your soul, and with all your strength, and with all your mind; and your neighbor as yourself.”



Social Media

Feel free to check us out on Instagram at <https://www.instagram.com/faithlilacway/> or Facebook at <https://www.facebook.com/faithlilacway> where we post inspirational verses and updates about what's happening at Faith-Lilac Way!

You can also find us on our website at faithlilacway.org where you can see all our online worship videos, printable bulletins, and recent sermons so you can follow along on our journey.



July Birthdays!

Nina Joygaard	July 1
Herb Scheelk	July 2
Steve Stobbs	July 3
Todd Hartjen	July 6
Larry Kuder	July 10
Brenna Vierzba	July 12
Joyce Zabinski	July 12
Mark Gaulke	July 22
Tom Overman	July 22
Michael Lindgren	July 23
Kathy Feyen	July 24
Tiana Love	July 24
Marion Hinz	July 25
Katie Hyduke	July 25
Brittni Johnson	July 29
Helen Brandon	July 30
Daniel Fernelius	July 30
JoAnne Perkins	July 30
Robert Wertz	July 31

Acknowledgments

Dear Faith-Lilac Way Lutheran Church,

Thank you for sponsoring an American Red Cross blood drive. We appreciate you having us here again and helping us out Today!

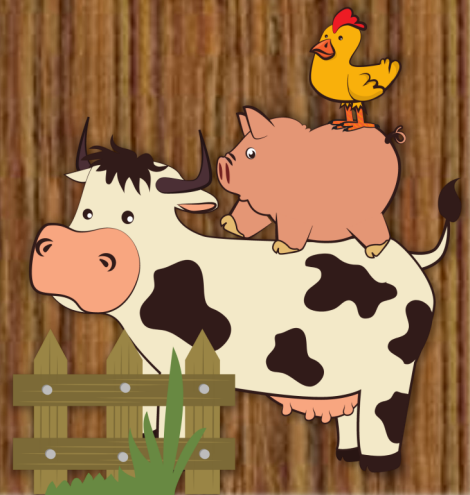


Presenting donors: 33
Total units: 34

Thanks!
Your ARC Team

Pastor Pam,
Thank you for officiating my mother's service. It was absolutely beautiful! You and my mother's church family was so special to her. I am so blessed to have this angel on earth as my mother. Thank you also for coming to visit her. I know it meant a lot to her and me. Thank you to Vicar Kristin. She is wonderful. Thank you to the helpers. Things ran very nicely with their help.

Sincerely, Caryn Carlson



July Banner

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Worship Schedule for July, 2021

All Are Welcome!

Worship Online, in the sanctuary, parking lot or at home.

Every Sunday - any time - online worship available at faithlilacway.org

9:30 AM Worship in Sanctuary and
Parking Lot -Simultaneously
10:30 AM Coffee and treats in the
Parking Lot!

