



*Faith-Lilac Way Lutheran Church*

**2023**

**June & July Banner**

**763.537.4523 | [faithlilacway.org](http://faithlilacway.org)  
5530 42nd Ave N, Robbinsdale, MN 55422**

## Pastor Article

Two years ago, we began a Minneapolis Area Synod program called **Faith Practices, Neighboring Practices**. The purpose of this program is to build the faith and the practice of faith in our congregation and to engage with our neighbors. We put together a team: Sue Ferkingstad, Rory Joygaard, Heather Lane, Tommy Thompson and our intern (first Kyle Anderson and now Joanna Kathol) and I. This team faithfully attended monthly meetings. We learned to listen more deeply, we paid more attention to the psalms and to prayer, we experimented with some new things and we learned - or relearned - a few things too. Here are a few:

- 1) We (ALL) are not done.
- 2) Faith becomes deeper and more meaningful when we take time for God and develop regular, daily faith practices (This is ONGOING)
- 3) This Congregation and the members and friends of this congregation have lots of assets - gifts and skills to share;
- 4) The people in our neighborhood have assets too - gifts and skills to share.
- 5) We can do it!

This is not rocket science. Engaging with our neighbors and with God is something that ordinary Lutherans can do. And, when we dare to talk with friends and neighbors on a deeper level and when we dare to invite other people to events that we care about, then something different happens than what would have happened if we had not. For example, because people like you personally invited friends and neighbors to the Big Band Bash, we had the largest group we had ever had. Because our council and our team sat with GSJ leadership, we had an honest and deep conversation about the things that we all want addressed in our neighborhood/world. Because the team rearranged the library to make it look like a welcoming place rather than a board room and then invited others to come and have healthy and sweet treats, more people are interacting. More people are staying for the hospitality time after our worship.

Our official monthly meetings have come to an end. However, this does not mean we put the book on the shelf. Now is the time for the work of this team to be spread throughout the congregation and led by the community outreach and service and mission team; the worship staff and committee; the hospitality committee, the property committee; the stewardship committee; the congregational life committee and the finance committee... in other words... all of us.

Many thanks to the Faith Practices Neighboring Practices team: Sue Ferkingstad, Rory Joygaard, Heather Lane, Tommy Thompson and our intern (first Kyle Anderson and now Joanna Kathol) for their dedication to spending the time to learn and to teach faith practices and engage in neighboring practices. The team will no longer meet as a team, however, the service and mission and outreach team will continue to do the work that this team began. They (and you) are invited to join in this work of listening to God and our neighbor and doing small experiments to make a difference in our community and in the lives of us and our neighbors.

*Pastor Pam*

## Vicar Article

### Help Us Get to Know Our Neighbors!

To be honest, I don't know any of my neighbors in the apartment building where I currently live. The most neighborly thing we do is a polite nod if we happen to pass one another in the hallway. Everyone has their own lives, their own to-do list, and everyone keeps to themselves. I have found that it is a lonely way to live not to know your neighbors. Here at Faith-Lilac Way, we are surrounded by some wonderful people. We have our neighbors next door at Robbins Way and in the houses along our street, our local businesses in downtown Robbinsdale, and some organizations doing some great work in our community. As the intern this year, I have loved opportunities to get to know our neighbors just a little bit more, but I also wonder how else we might be able to connect with those around us.

This summer we are going to be intentional about inviting and getting to know our neighbors. We will be hosting "The Gathering Place" on the FLW lawn twice a month, we will have a community ice cream social in June, and we have invited our neighbors and ministry partners including Greater St. John and Wildfire Churches to be a part of Vacation Bible School in July.

Each of these events will be an opportunity to gather and get to know the people who live and work around us, but we need your help! You can help us build community and get the word out about fun events this summer by talking to and inviting your own neighbors. If you see a neighbor at the grocery store or while you're on an evening stroll, give them a smile, introduce yourself and offer an invitation—you might be surprised at the difference a kind invitation can make. Or maybe you might call a congregation member you haven't seen in awhile and invite them to join you at the Gathering Place, what a great way to reconnect! We hope to see you—and all of our wonderful neighbors—enjoying community together this summer! I can't wait!

Vicar Joanna



## Announcements

### **Join us for Treats and Talk on Sunday Mornings!**

Join us in the library after worship on Sunday mornings for treats and conversation. All are welcome! Sign up sheet to host one of the Sunday's this summer is by the office.

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### **Join us at "The Gathering Place" This Summer!**

Where is the gathering place? Faith Lilac Way's beautiful lawn! This summer on the 2nd and 4th Wednesdays of the month, we will be gathering on the lawn at 6:30pm for a bonfire, smores and hotdogs! Come as you are and bring your family and friends because all are welcome to join us for some fun, games, conversation and fellowship! Find the dates below!

**Wednesdays June 14th & 28th at 6:30 PM**  
**Wednesdays July 12th & 26th at 6:30 PM**  
**Wednesday August 9th at 6:30 PM**

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**VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL – July 10-13**  
**Monday- Thursday 5:30 - 7:30 PM**  
**Where: Faith Lilac Way Lutheran Church**



Ages: Preschool—6th grade  
Suggested Donation: \$25/child  
How to Register: Online at [www.faithlilacway.org](http://www.faithlilacway.org) or in the church office. First deadline is June 11th.

Join us for Dinner, Bible Stories, Crafts, Games & More!  
**Cooks and helpers needed. Contact the office for more information.**  
**Sponsored by: Faith-Lilac Way, and Greater St. John, and Wildfire partners including Cross of Glory, Valley of Peace, Elim and House of Hope**

**Help us get the word out about VBS by inviting your friends, family and neighbors! All are welcome!**

Front/Back



**Faith Lilac Way T- Shirts Now Available!**  
**Adults \$20 Kids \$10**  
**(Pick them up in the office)**

### **You are Invited to an Ice Cream Social!**

Hosted by Faith Lilac Way and Greater St. John  
June 24th 10:30 AM at Welcome Park on Welcome Avenue and 46th . Invite your friends, family and neighbors too!



## Events

### **Cherish All Children 2023 5K June 11, 2023**

Join the FLW/CAC 5K team and walk the neighborhood as we support Cherish All Children. The FLW/CAC 5K Team will meet at 11:15am near the Victory Flagpole (4499 Victory Memorial Drive, Mpls. 55412). CAC will have a table with waters, snacks, Cherish All Children information, t-shirts and caps. The walk will begin at 11:30am heading south on the Grand Rounds Trail, turning around at 33rd Avenue North returning to our starting point. Sign up online to be a team member: <https://events.lssmn.org/page/51871/event/1>

Donations are needed and tax deductible so please give to one of the team members or via the donation website: <https://donate.lssmn.org/page/51876/donate/1>

### **“Midsummer Shindig” for Wildfire Every Meal**

Wednesday, June 21<sup>st</sup>, 2023

5:30 – 9:00 pm at House of Hope

- Food with an International Flair in keeping with Every Meal’s tailored meal bags
- Music from the Fleshpots of Egypt (members are seminary professors and pastors)
- Hammerschlagen Tournament
- Heads & Tails, and Raffle!

Shindig tickets \$20, Raffle \$5, games \$1

Tickets will be available for purchase at FLW and/or at the event.

### **SAVE THE DATE! -sign up if you can walk with us!**

**Robbinsdale Whiz Bang Days** will be July 6-9, 2023, with the parade being held on Sunday, July 9th. You are invited to represent Faith Lilac Way by being a member of our unit walking in the parade. Let’s spread joy and the love of God together! For details of Whiz Bang Days events throughout the weekend: <https://www.robinsdalewhizbangdays.org/> A sign up sheet to join in on the fun is on the table outside the office or call 763.537.4523.



**SAVE the DATE!**  
**Big Band Bash Returns**  
 Wednesday, August 23rd  
 5:00pm



## **Prayers**

Holy God, journey with us this summer wherever our paths may lead. Keep safe those who travel. Give rest and revelation to the weary. Fill the hungry with good things. Comfort all who are suffering or in need of health and healing including from our congregation: Lois Anderson, David Bjorkquist, Helen Brandon, Carol Brown, Jacqueline Butkowski, Kris Duffin, Larry Geer, Carolyn Lageson, Joyce Merkel, Mary O’Neil, Betty Schmidt, Linda St. John, Edith Theilmann, Jackie Woolgar, and Vic Woolgar.

# Happy Birthday!

| June Birthdays   |    |                     |    |
|------------------|----|---------------------|----|
| Robert Nelson    | 4  | Jordan Luoma        | 22 |
| Kaitlyn Bahneman | 9  | Pamela Engquist     | 23 |
| Mark Silerud     | 11 | Tom Evans           | 23 |
| Melanie Bahneman | 14 | Renee Kalberg       | 23 |
| Ali Evans        | 16 | Marty Moores        | 24 |
| David Lindgren   | 17 | Jaqueline Butkowski | 25 |
| Drake Davis      | 18 | Erin Pithan         | 28 |
| Stuart Lane      | 22 | Steve Kuntz         | 30 |

| July Birthdays   |    |                  |    |
|------------------|----|------------------|----|
| Nina Joygaard    | 1  | Kathy Feyen      | 24 |
| Steve Stobbs     | 3  | Marion Hinz      | 25 |
| Todd Hartjen     | 6  | Katie Hyduke     | 25 |
| Larry Kuder      | 10 | Brittini Henkels | 29 |
| Brenna Vierzba   | 12 | Helen Brandon    | 30 |
| Joyce Zabinski   | 21 | Daniel Fernelius | 30 |
| Mark Gaulke      | 22 | JoAnne Perkins   | 30 |
| Tom Overman      | 22 | Pastor Bob Wertz | 31 |
| Michael Lindgren | 23 |                  |    |

We apologize if your name is missing. Please call the office, we are probably missing your birthday in our system.



## Bingo at Robbins Way

During the summer we will be scheduling a time each month to go next door to enjoy some bingo, snacks and prizes with our neighbors at Robbins Way. Stay tuned for dates in your weekly worship bulletins!

## Thank You!

**From the family of Bev Maas:** Faith Lilac Way Church, Pastor Pam, Staff and the entire congregation meant so much to Bev, especially in her final days of earth. Thank you.



**From Can Do Canines:** Thanks to your generosity, more people with disabilities will be united with their very own Can Do Canines assistance dog and live their life to the fullest. Your support will help us continue training and placing assistance dogs that provide life-changing assistance free of charge to people who need them now. Thank you!

### June Mission of the Month: Cherish All Children

Dear friends at Faith-Lilac Way,

Thank you for your dedicated support through your Mission of the Month gifts and participation in the Cherish All Children 5K! Our partnership continues to keep children and youth safe from sexual exploitation, supporting their growth into healthy relationships.

With the significant increase in online sextortion schemes, our work with Confirmation classes, youth groups and families is as important as ever. Our [Safe and Healthy Relationships Youth Guide and Leader's Guide](#) are being translated into Spanish in order to serve our Spanish speaking congregations here in the U.S. and also our Lutheran partners in Guatemala. Your support is far-reaching!

Here are ways you can get involved and make a difference in keeping youth safe!

- \*Give with your Mission of the Month gifts.
- \*Participate in the Cherish All Children 5K June 11 after worship here at FLW! (Or participate on your own any time the weekend of June 9-11.)
- \*Sign up to be part of Team Cherish All Children, asking friends and family to sponsor your walk.
- \*Just 10 friends sponsoring \$30 each raises \$300. Challenge Goal: Raise \$500 and another donor will match with another \$500!
- \*Find more information at [cherishallchildren.org](http://cherishallchildren.org) News & Events.



*Blessings & Peace,*

*Joy McElroy*

### July Mission of the Month: Every Meal

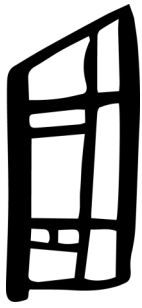
**More than 300,000 children in Minnesota live with food insecurity.** Every Meal fights child hunger by focusing on filling the **food gaps** children face on **weekends, extended breaks, and summer** when they're not able to access school meal programs. When they don't have consistent access to enough food, the risk of hunger is very real. Through their multiple food gap programs, they provide children and families experiencing food insecurity with access to good food.

Many of our FLW members volunteer for one of the EM programs during the school year. Each Friday, in the kids locker, a food bag is placed in the backpack of a participating kid, providing one weekend meal for the family. The need is real; there has been an unprecedented 34% increase in kids signing up for weekend food support, making it financially challenging for EM to keep up with the demand.



**EVERY MEAL**  
FIGHTING CHILD HUNGER

Five Minnesota family foundations have come together to provide a \$1 million matching gift to Every Meal. If EM reaches their fundraising goals, it will fulfill their commitment to the nearly 12,000 kids signed up to receive weekend food bags through the remaining weeks of this school year. To make a matching donation: [www.everymeal.org/give](http://www.everymeal.org/give)



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## June July 2023 Banner

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5530 42nd Ave N, Robbinsdale, MN 55422

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### Check out these events!

#### **You are invited to:**

- June 11 11:30am Cherish All Children 5K Walk
- June 14 6:30pm The Gathering Place - FLW Lawn
- June 24 10:30am Ice Cream Social in partnership with Greater St. John - Welcome Park
- June 28 6:30pm The Gathering Place - FLW Lawn
- July 9 1:00pm Join the FLW Whiz Bangs Days Parade Group downtown Robbinsdale (or watch the parade, cheer us on!)
- July 12 6:30pm The Gathering Place - FLW Lawn
- July 26 6:30pm The Gathering Place - FLW Lawn