

Faith-Lilac Way Lutheran Church

MAY 2024 Banner of Faith

763.537.4523 | faithlilacway.org 5530 42nd Ave N, Robbinsdale, MN 55422

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Pastor's Article

Suddenly from heaven there came a sound like the rush of a violent wind...Divided tongues, as of fire, appeared among them, and a tongue rested on each of them. All of them were filled with the Holy Spirit. Acts 2

In the book of Acts, Pentecost comes with wind, fire, tongues and the Holy Spirit. Stand up! Take notice! God is at work in a new way!!!

The day of Pentecost sounds like a party. But, unfortunately, even though it is the day we celebrate the third person of the Trinity, it often gets overlooked. Granted, sometimes that is because it often happens to fall on Memorial Day weekend – which marks the beginning of summer, vacation and trips up North for many people. I'm not discouraging you to take vacation or sabbath time – both are good for you!

However, I'm glad that this year we are able to celebrate Pentecost before the Memorial Day weekend. **This year we celebrate Pentecost on Sunday, May 19**th. The color of the day is red and that means it is a festive Sunday. And it will be. In addition to being the Day of Pentecost, it is the last Sunday of the program year for the Chancel choir, and so we will be celebrating with lots of special music. You won't want to miss it!

But then, after a quick celebration of the Trinity the next Sunday, we move into the long season of Pentecost which some call "Ordinary Time." The color of the paraments during this season is green. So I have often thought of this time as a season for growing. Somehow that sounds better than "Ordinary".

But "Ordinary" does not have to mean boring. After all, it is the "ordinary" meals of a family around the table that forms the habits of children – much more than the special meals of birthdays and celebrations. It is the ordinary maintenance of our health and home that keeps it strong and sturdy. And, it is the "ordinary" love of our friends and neighbors that strengthens us so that when there is a challenge, we can confidently lean on those relationships that we know will be there for us – no matter what.

So, brothers and sisters in Christ, come celebrate with us on Pentecost. It's going to be fun! And don't neglect your relationship with God (whether you are here or away) during the "ordinary season." Come and join us this summer for some mid-week ordinary time as we gather together around a campfire on the 2nd Wednesday of the month. Sign up a child for VBS or host a summer "Treats & Talk". Visit a church or pack a devotional when you go out of town. For God, the Holy Spirit, is with you at FLW and at the lake and everywhere else. And this is Good News!

May the Holy Spirit blow blessings upon you in this "ordinary" time,

Pastor Pam

Prayers Requested:

Your children cry out, O God, and you listen. We pray for all who cry out in suffering or pain and for those who have medical concerns. We pray for Bishop Ann Svennungsen and her husband Rev. Bill Russell as he begins chemotherapy and those from our congregation who have long-term medical challenges including: David Bjorkquist, Helen Brandon, Carol Brown, Jacqueline Butkowski, Larry Geer, Carolyn Lageson, Joyce Merkel, Jackie Mueller, Betty Schmidt, Linda St. John, Jackie Woolgar, Vic Woolgar and. those we name out loud or silently in our hearts... God of grace, hear our prayer.

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Both spring and Easter are seasons of new birth and rebirth, bursting with the promises of rain, sunshine, colorful blooms, and signs of new life and resurrection. Since baptism, too, is a form of rebirth, we remember our baptisms each week of Easter, and therefore, I have found myself reflecting on the sacrament of baptism, and especially on Martin Luther's writings and teachings regarding this blessed sacrament, which I find are some of his most beautiful writings.

As you may remember from confirmation, Martin Luther teaches that the sacrament of baptism involves a sign—a tangible, earthly element (meaning something we can touch, taste, see, hear or smell)—and the Word of God, which includes both the spoken scripture and Jesus' command to "do this," and also a gift and/or a promise from God. In the case of baptism, the sign is water. Luther teaches that, when ordinary water is combined with the Word of God, it is no longer just water, but is transformed into "a flood of grace," that makes us "truly pure, without sin, and wholly guiltless." Baptism is a spiritual rebirth in which we are made new. In the waters of baptism, God "pours into [us] his grace and Holy Spirit." Luther says that in baptism, God becomes one with us in a gracious covenant of comfort.

However, Luther reminds us that baptism does not remove our tendency or capacity to sin. We continue to sin as long as we live, but God promises to forgive our sins daily. According to Luther, for one who is baptized, "this whole life is nothing else than a spiritual baptism which does not cease till death." Luther also states that baptism always remains valid, as do the promises God makes to us in baptism. Regardless of our sins, baptism remains a permanent gift of that "flood of grace" that allows us to sleep peacefully each night, comforted by the knowledge that we are able to arise and begin anew each and every day, with a clean slate, forgiven and bathed in the love and grace of Christ through the waters of baptism.

May we all find hope and peace in the knowledge that we are born anew each day through the waters and the Holy Spirit in which we were baptized, trusting in God's promises of love, grace, mercy and everlasting life. Amen.

Source quoted:

Luther, Martin. "The Works of Martin Luther: Volume 35: Word and Sacrament, Volume One:: The Holy and Blessed Sacrament of Baptism," 1519.

Vicar Karen

Small Sums RESTORING HOPE BREAKFAST

Thursday, May 16 8-9am

Town & Country Club 300 N. Mississippi Boulevard, St. aul, MN

Join Small Sums for an inspiring morning of community and giving! This event is free to attend, and includes community building, personal testimonials, and opportunities to invest in their mission. Register using the QR code or at https://www3.thedatabank.com/dpg/707/personal2.asp?formid=SmallSums_Event&c=20240122153844271328



Hennepin County Horticultural Society Plant Sale

In our parking lot Monday May 13 5:30p.m.

Please support the HCHS Garden Club that meets at FLW and maintains our gardens by buying your garden plants here. Both perennial and annual plants will be sold at very good prices. Please invite your friends and neighbors too.



Announcements

Join us for Treats and Talk on Sunday Mornings!

Join us in the library after worship on Sunday mornings for treats and conversation.

Prayer request for the Minneapolis Area Synod Assembly

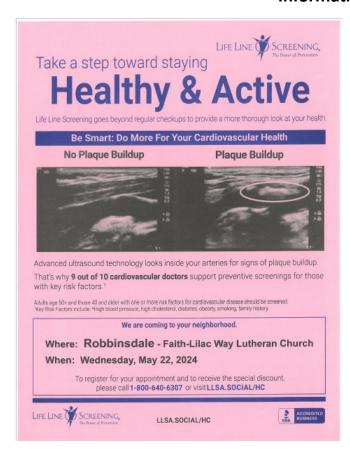
Please pray for the synod as we prepare for the election of the next bishop at the next Synod Assembly, which is set for May 2-4, 2024, at Lord of Life Lutheran Church, Ramsey. The bishop election process is an opportunity for us to discern the needs of the synod and who God is calling as our next leader to guide us. Jessica Hughes, Sue Ferkingstad, and Pastor Pam will be attending the Synod Assembly, representing Faith Lilac Way Lutheran Church. Please pray for all attending as we elect our next bishop.

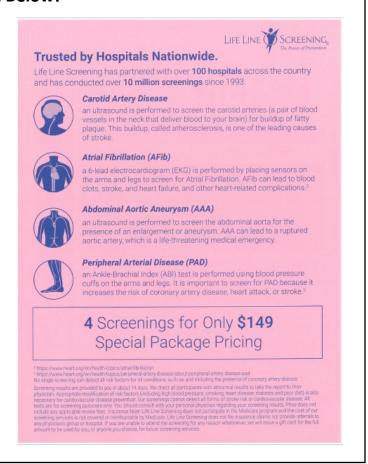
2024 Empty Bowls UPDATE

WHAT IS EMPTY BOWLS? A grass-roots effort to raise money for local food shelves. Event was held Tuesday, March 19, 2024 We appreciate everyone's support of this annual event! We raised approx. \$18,765 through the bowl parties, sponsor donations and from attendees at the event. These funds will be evenly distributed to both the NEAR and PRISM food shelves.



Faith Lilac Way to Host Life Line Screening Event May 22, 2024 Information Below!







WELCA News

In April, WELCA attended a Designer Purse Bingo event sponsored by Women of Song. Fun night! In May, our plan is to help plant the flower pots on the parking lot side of the church. Then spend some time in nature walking through the Eloise Butler Wildflower Garden and Bird Sanctuary on Theodore Wirth Parkway. Dates to be determined. All are welcome!

Electronic sign? During the April 15th Council Meeting, the existing and needing to be replaced in the near future FLW sign on 42nd was a topic of discussion. Do we replace it with another like sign or as almost all churches in the area have done, should FLW go electronic? The council decided to explore the option of an electronic sign. Interested in being part of the conversation and/or research? Contact Dave Fernelius.

Save the Date Every Meal Midsummer Shindig A benefit for Every Meal FIGHTING CHILD HUNGER Wednesday June 19th 5:30-8:00

House of Hope Lutheran Church



SAVE THE DATE

June 7-9: Cherish All Children Hybrid 5K!

Your time & place, or walk together Sunday, June 9, 11:30 a.m. at Victory Memorial Parkway.

Join in this fun event where YOU can make a difference in keeping children safe! Walk or run at a time and location that's best for you, or meet up with Cherish All Children's church and community partners for a group walk Sunday at Victory Memorial Parkway (4499 Victory Memorial Drive, Minneapolis, MN 55412). Faith Lilac Way will be walking on June 9th.

Help us raise \$20,000 so we can have an even greater impact with youth and families in the coming year. Enlisting others to sponsor you is an easy way to accomplish this goal; consider asking 10 friends to sponsor you for \$30 each. If you're unable to participate, you may also sponsor a participant or make a general gift and support this work of keeping children safe from sexual exploitation.

Learn more, sign up for this free event, or donate at <u>cherishallchildren.org/events</u>.

Robbinsdale Events



May 2, 2024 Bike Rodeo

Lakeview Terrace Park, 3769 Crystal Lake Boulevard 6:00-8:00 p.m.

Bike riding offers fun, freedom, and exercise! At this event, riders will have the opportunity to get their helmet properly fitted, navigate their bikes through a safety skills course, and get their bikes checked for safety. Police and Fire personnel will be in attendance to oversee these activities. Participants can also be entered into a door prize drawing to win a new bike! Sponsored by the cities of Crystal, Golden Valley, New Hope, and Robbinsdale. FREE event!

VBS
July 15-18, 2024
Details coming soon!



Thank you!

Thank you for your recent gift to CEAP!

CEAP is currently seeing the **highest percentage of first-time Food Market visitors** in our history, and need for Meals on
Wheels continues to rise. Because of you, families, children,
seniors, and all of our neighbors have access to our community
safety net. Together, we are growing a **stronger**, **healthier**, **and more connected community!**

Clare Brumback CEAP President

May Birthdays				
Name	Date	Name	Date	
Linda Christensen	1	Nicholas Kuder	13	
Heather Lane	1	Sandra Dolence	14	
Paula Lindgren	5	Wendy Blackman	16	
Thomas Thompson	6	Natasha Rice	18	
Pastor James Anderson	10	Ella Henkels	21	
Sandy Blackman	11	Peter Olson	22	
Dan Schumacher	11	Harold Osmundson	27	
Gina Swanson	12	Sandy Hanneman	28	

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

FLW Staff

Pastor Pamela Stalheim Lane

Vicar Karen Peterson

Ann Skoglund-Anderson, Music Director

Sue Ferkingstad, Admn. Asst./Communications

Mark Overman, Janitor

FLW Council & Committees

Larry Kuder, President & Property
Dave Fernelius, Vice President &
Congregational Life
Sue Ferkingstad, Secretary, WELCA &
Community Connections

Paula Lindgren, Treasurer
Jeananne Aenerud, Worship
Clint Hughes, Community Connections
Grant Galarneau-Becker, Stewardship
Natasha Rice, Community Connections
Lydia Foster, Youth

Thank you Faith Lilac Way for being a remarkable congregation that has generously supported the Mission Support Partnership Plan in 2023. Together with the other 134 ministries of the synod, your mission support gives life to Christian Communities that encourage just and healthy neighborhoods.

Karina Vincent and the Minneapolis Area Synod

Thank you for your gift to ELCA World Hunger. Your generosity is getting at the root causes of hunger and poverty in over 60 countries, including the United States. It provides access to clean water, health care, agriculture, livestock and education, and it advances peace and justice. The glory of God shines through you.

Amanda White, Director, Congregational Generosity.

Interested in Serving on the Worship Committee?

Do you love worship? Do you have ideas about how we worship at FLW? Do you wish we did something in worship that we aren't? Do you want to see worship change? Stay the same? If you answered yes to any of these questions, please see Pastor Pam or Jeananne Aanerud, the liaison to the Church council for the worship committee. We are looking for a few interested people to serve on a committee that meets 3 time per year (once in April to help plan Summer worship; once in the summer for fall planning and once in the fall for giving input for worship for the new year. Our next meeting is May will be Tuesday, May 14th at 7:00pm in the library.

Mission of the Month: Parenting with Purpose

https://www.parentingwithpurpose.org/





PARENTING WITH PURPOSE

Parenting With Purpose is a 501(c)3, non-profit organization founded by Paul and Lori Strong in 1995. The mission of PWP is: **Through mentoring, education and support, Parenting With Purpose will bring healing, restoration and liberty to families affected by incarceration.**

PWP is unique in that we work with the entire family unit as they go through the incarceration of a loved one. Since 1995, PWP has reached over 7,000 families in Minnesota that are impacted by the incarceration of a loved one.

WHY PARENTING WITH PURPOSE?

Today, one in every 100 American adults are in prison and more than 221,000 children in Minnesota have an incarcerated mother or father—and they're among the highest at-risk and least visible populations of children. PWP is changing this narrative. 100% of kids mentored through Parenting with Purpose and parents released remain crime free.

WHAT DOES PARENTING WITH PURPOSE DO?

Parenting with Purpose currently has parenting classes in Minnesota Correctional Facilities in Faribault, Lino Lakes, Rush City, Shakopee Women's Correctional Facility and at Life Rebuilders Halfway House in Minneapolis. We also have a mentoring program for youth ages 5–25 years old who have been impacted by the incarceration of a loved one. This program entails one on one matches as well as a monthly group/activity that allows the youth to see that they are not alone. In addition to our community based program we have a school based program for students at Park Center High School and Osseo Area Learning Center. These weekly classes help reduce self-destructive behavior, improve relationships between youth, parent, and caregiver, improve school attendance and academic achievement, improve behavior in the home, school, and community.

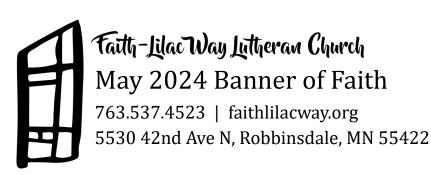
Our primary goal is to share the love of God to our participants and give them hope in turning their lives around as they break the generational cycle of criminal behavior in their families.

HOW DO I GET INVOLVED???

Parenting With Purpose has many volunteer opportunities and we also have two major fundraisers – PWP Golf Tournament–July 22, 2024 and PWP Experience (dinner, auction and testimonials)– Sept 22, 2024.

To learn more about PWP or to get involved visit: www.parentingwithpurpose.org or contact Lori Strong -612-483-8562.

Thank you! from Jesse M. Stremcha, Vice President of Development for Lutheran Social Services of Minnesota: Together, we are neighbors helping neighbors. From adoption and foster care to shelter and safety for youth experiencing homeless to support for people with disabilities to nutritious, homedelivered meals for older adults, LSS impacts over 91,000 Minnesotans each year. I invite you to learn more about our services and see how your generosity is already inspiring hope, changing lives, and building community at Issmn.org



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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 Wednesday of the month**, we will be gathering on the lawn at **6:00pm** for a bonfire, smores, hotdogs and brats! Come as you are and bring your family and friends because all are welcome to join us for some fun, games, conversation and fellowship! Hosts needed! Questions about what it takes to host The Gathering Place, contact Clint Hughes, Natasha Rice, or Sue Ferkingstad. Find the dates below!

