

Faith-Lilac Way Lutheran Church

November Banner 2022

(763) 537-4523 | Faithlilacway.org
5530 42nd Ave N, Robbinsdale, MN 55422

Thanksgiving Eve Worship!

Wednesday Night 7 PM

Followed by celebrating FLW's 79th
Anniversary with a PieFest!



Pastoral Article

This past month, my husband and I went on a “camino” with eight close friends of ours from college. Camino simply means “walk” in Spanish. But the term has come to refer to not just any walk, but a pilgrim walk to a holy site. The destination in Spain is the cathedral in Santiago built in honor of St. James, Jesus’ disciple.

People have been going on this Camino for hundreds of years. The traditional “Camino de Santiago” follows a path from France across Spain to Santiago. But there are “camino” paths from many directions. We took the path from Portugal. The path is well marked with signs like these:



This shell is the symbol of the Camino de Santiago journey - many of the pilgrims who walk the path wear this shell or attach it to their backpack. Not only is this scalloped shell a common seafood in Spain, but medieval pilgrims would use this shell when they went to churches that were handing out food for pilgrims - this was the portion that they would receive.

This shell is also a symbol of baptism and this was what I thought about on my journey. As I walked this path for over 100 kilometers - 70 miles - with friends, we had many and long conversations - some of them just “catching up” and some of them “deeper” and more reflective of our pilgrim journey.

As I walked and talked, I became more and more grateful. I am grateful for this time, for the world God has made and I am grateful for you and all the people in my life. In a time in which the world around us seems ever more challenging, it is good to take the time to simply reflect on the gifts that God has given us - gifts of time, gifts of companions for our journey and the gift of Jesus Christ, our Savior.

At the end of our journey, we celebrated communion on a church hilltop not far from the city as the sun rose. And then we joined the hundreds of pilgrims in Santiago for the “Pilgrim’s mass.” We got there a ½ hour early, but there was standing room only. At the end of the service, eight clergymen took huge ropes and brought down from the ceiling a “Bota fumado,” a huge silver incense container on ropes. They filled the container with incense, lit it and after a prayer, they hoisted the fumado into the air and swung it over the heads of those in the cathedral while the organ played an phenomenal oratory. It was a sight to see, to smell and to hear!



It was an incredible journey - but it wasn’t quite done. The next day we took a journey to “Fistere” - Also called “finisteria.” This is the farthest known point to the west in New Testament times and the place where James supposedly preached when he went to preach “to the ends of the earth.” I couldn’t help proclaiming a word of scriptures too.

Pastor Pam at the Finistere - the end of the earth proclaiming: “This is the day that the Lord has made. Let us rejoice and be glad in it!” Psalm 118:24 As I reflect back on this time away, it made me realize once again how grateful I am for the gifts of God - the gift of baptism into the family of God, the gift of God’s beautiful creation and the gift of you, my family in Christ. Thanks be to God!



Vicar Article

What is a cause that you care about?



When I was a little girl I was very passionate about animals. So much so, in fact, that I was certain I would grow up to be an “animal police officer.” I imagined myself rescuing cats from trees and freeing dogs from locked cars. I would save all of the homeless animals. Although that childhood dream did not come to pass, I am still passionate about helping animals today. For that reason, I donate money and pet supplies to local animal rescue organizations, and this past year I adopted my kitty, Willow, from a local rescue so I could provide for at least one animal a forever home. While I can’t realistically save all of the animals, I have found a way to contribute and do my small part.

There are a lot of needs in the world, and thankfully there are people passionate about filling different needs. This reminds me of what Paul talks about in 1 Corinthians 12. There are many members, but one body. There are many gifts, but one Spirit. All people are needed with their unique passions and perspectives to make one complete picture. Think about it this way: if the only thing everyone cared about was making sure people had food—then who would care about making sure people had clean water, clothing, education, healthcare, employment? All of these are deeply important, but it takes a variety of people with a variety of passions to work together to fill these needs.

I had a conversation about this the other day with my boyfriend, Derek. We were at Walmart and I was telling him how excited I was to donate toys for Christmas. That is my favorite part of the holiday season because it brings me joy to think about a child opening a present on Christmas morning. Derek agreed that donating toys was a great thing to do, but for him he is more passionate about donating food and supporting food pantries. Both causes are important. We want families to be fed and we want children to smile with a gift. But you know what? There are people passionate about other causes to help in other ways too. There are the people who work to provide safe housing, people who donate or knit winter clothing, people who provide access to medical care, or work to provide access to education and fair employment opportunities. The list goes on.

The point is, we all have different causes that we are passionate about, and we all can find ways both big and small to play our part. So as we enter into the Thanksgiving and Christmas season, I encourage you to take some time to reflect on some of the causes that you are passionate about. How might you be able to help do this important work in the world? Thanks be to God for our many passions!

Vicar Joanna Kathol

Prayers?

Gracious God, we pray for this congregation and the ministry we share. Bless those who are hurting and in need of your care, including, from this congregation: Lois Anderson, David Bjorkquist, Helen Brandon, Carol Brown, Jacqueline Butkowski, Larry Geer, Carolyn Lageson, Joyce Merkel, Edith Thielmann, Lucas Wiste, Jackie Woolgar, and Vic Woolgar. Comfort all who mourn and surround each one with your love and grace. In Jesus’ name. Amen.



What's Happening in November!

Near FoodShelf November Focus: Give to the Max!

On Thursday, November 17th, the NEAR FoodShelf will have a special virtual "give day" fundraiser raising money for the FoodShelf. If you would like to participate in this virtual fundraiser you can donate using the following link:

<https://www.givemn.org/organization/North-Suburban-Emergency-Assistance-Response>

You can also continue to donate non-perishable food items to the NEAR FoodShelf box in the church entryway. Thank you for helping to feed our community by supporting our local FoodShelf!



NEAR Christmas Toy Distribution

This Christmas you can help make Christmas brighter for local children, teens and families by supporting NEAR as they collect toys and other items to distribute to families in need. Here is how church members can help...

Make donations of toys and gift items for boys and girls ages birth to 17. Most needed and popular items include gloves, hats (toddler/youth), scarfs (solid colors), sports items, toys, electronics, stuffed animals, socks (toddler), coloring kits, Hot Wheels and drawing pads. Target gift cards can also be donated to allow NEAR to purchase fill in items. Monetary donations for the event are also welcome. (Please note NEAR Toy Distribution on any check or envelope memo line).

The first deadline for donations is November 20th to help with stocking stuffer items for all ages. The second deadline for donations is December 10th for final toy and gift items.

Thank you for helping to support local children and families this holiday season!

Join Us for Annual Thanksgiving Eve Service and Pie Social

Gather friends and relatives and friends and join us on Wednesday, November 23rd at 7pm as we gather for worship to give thanks and praise to God for all of our many blessings. After worship W/ELCA will host a pie social to celebrate and give thanks for our Faith Lilac Way Church's 79th Anniversary. Come and bring pie to share. All are welcome!





Sunday Morning Treats and Talk Fellowship Time!

In October we moved our coffee and treats after Sunday morning worship from the narthex and into the church library. It is our hope that this change will continue to help us to grow in relationship with one another as well as create space for community and conversation. You will also notice a puzzle and a community coloring

project in the hallway outside the library for people to work on together. Join us Sundays after church for treats and community—all are welcome! See the schedule below.

November 6th – Telling the stories of the Saints in our lives

November 13th – Confirmation Celebration for Rylee Vierzba

November 20th – Deanna Standing Cloud will be speaking with us. She was very helpful when we were working on a land acknowledgment. She will share a bit about Native history - including some Dakota words we use every day - and don't even realize it!

Tuesdays at 2pm Group Schedule

Join us Tuesdays at 2pm in the church library as we gather for yummy treats, conversation, Bible study, book club and time together. All are welcome! The schedule is below.

November 1st – Bible Study (no preparation needed)

November 8th – Treats and Social Time

November 15th – TED Talk and Conversation (no preparation needed)

November 22nd – NO Meeting Thanksgiving Week

November 29th – Book Club—*The Sun Does Shine* by Anthony Ray Hinton (see article below).

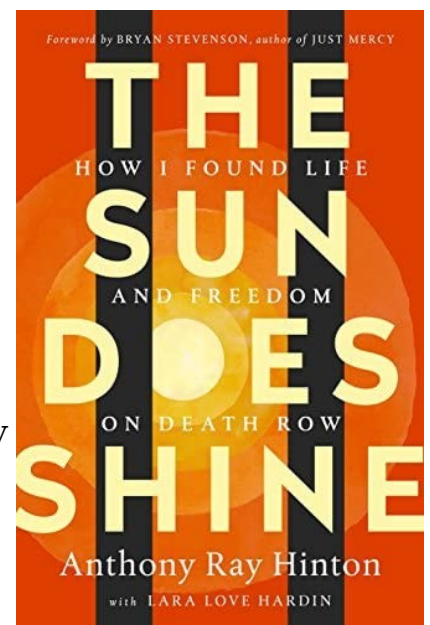
Join Us For Book Club!

Evening: Tuesday, November 15 at 7 PM

Daytime: November 29th at 2pm in church library

This month our daytime and evening book clubs will be reading *The Sun Does Shine*, a memoir by Anthony Ray Hinton.

“In 1985, Anthony Ray Hinton was arrested and charged with two counts of capital murder in Alabama. Stunned, confused, and only twenty-nine years old, Hinton knew that it was a case of mistaken identity and believed that the truth would prove his innocence and ultimately set him free. It was difficult, but as Hinton realized and accepted his fate, he resolved not only to survive, but find a way to live on Death Row. For the next twenty-seven years he was a beacon—transforming not only his own spirit, but those of his fellow inmates, fifty-four of whom were executed mere feet from his cell. With the help of civil rights attorney and bestselling author of *Just Mercy*, Bryan Stevenson, Hinton won his release in 2015.



All Saints Sunday ~ November 6, 2022

On this day we give thanks for those new “saints” who have been baptized at Faith-Lilac Way over the past year.

Charlie Wilson	Rosalyn
Sebastian	Bahneman
Stevens	Soren Joygaard



On All Saints Sunday we also remember those saints who have died and whose lives we celebrated in the past year. Join us as we light candles to remember and give thanks to God for all these saints.

Bradley Hesslerund	Herbert Scheelk	Elaine Schmidt
Laurie Schumacher	Jerry Wahlstrom	Jean Chapman
Sheryl Greife	Margaret Pendsimas	

Stay Tuned for Volunteer Opportunities with EveryMeal!

EveryMeal is an important ministry that packs and provides meals for children in need across the metro area. We have recently learned that EveryMeal is serving more children and families than ever before—2,000 more just this year in fact! Due to this increase, EveryMeal is in need of more volunteers to help prepare food bags that will be delivered to families. Stay tuned for future announcements as we work to coordinate group volunteer opportunities in November or December. You can also donate online to EveryMeal at <https://www.everymeal.org/give/>.

November Birthdays!

Dennis Engquist.....1st	Jessica Swanson.....7th
Rol Flom.....1st	Brianna Overman.....12th
Colleen Foster1st	Grant Becker.....13th
Scott Edstrom.....3rd	Thea Pease.....19th
Clinton Grev.....4th	Zachary Evans.....25th
Dave Peloquin4th	Jacqueline Mueller.....28th
David Wietzke.....6th	Joey Bahneman.....29th

Acknowledgments

Luther Seminary

Thank you for your recent gift of \$250 to Luther Seminary. We deeply appreciate your generous support! Through your gifts and those of others in the past year, 128 new leaders were sent out to lead in Christian communities, and 52% of them graduated without any student debt. It is because of your generosity that we can heed the call of the Holy Spirit and fulfill God’s will for ourselves and for the church. We give thanks to God for you!

Lutheran Social Services

Together we are neighbors helping neighbors. Thank you for your generous gift to support the services of Lutheran Social Service of Minnesota. From adoption and foster care to shelter and safety for youth experiencing homelessness to support for people with disabilities to nutritious, home-delivered meals for older adults, LSS impacts 1 in every 65 Minnesotans. I invite you to learn more about our services and see how your generosity is already inspiring hope, changing lives, and building communities at lssmn.org.

Dear Faith-Lilac Way Lutheran Church friends,

Thank you for your gracious card and giftcard to REI. It was a lovely surprise to discover that while I was gone on vacation, you decided to celebrate "Pastor Appreciation" Day with a lovely gift for me. Since I love to hike/ go on pilgrim walks, there are always great items at REI to accompany me on the journey! Thank you again for your thoughtfulness. I love serving as your pastor.

- Pastor Pam



Pastor Becca

Dear Congregation of Faith-Lilac Way,
Thank you so much for the beautiful Red Stole for my Ordination. I have loved wearing it for Reformation, Pentecost, and other Ordination services. Most of all, I wanted to say thank you for your support and prayers. I am grateful to God for bringing me to FLW. Thank you for helping me learn how to be a pastor. Thank you for your encouragement, grace, and forgiveness. Thank

you for letting me into your lives and allowing me to witness God at work in all that you do. God bless you!

- Your sister in Christ, Pastor Becca.

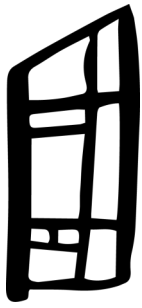
Thank You for Sharing Your Time, Talents and Treasures with the Ministry of Faith Lilac Way!

By working together, the support and participation of our congregation makes it possible for Faith Lilac Way to do ministry everyday. We are the church in this time and place, and with God's help we are able to use our time, talents, passions and financial resources to worship God and make a difference in the lives of our members, neighbors and the wider community. Thank you for supporting and being a part of the ministries of Faith Lilac Way!

Here are just a few ways your support will make a difference this year:

- ⇒ People will hear the Word of God in weekly worship
- ⇒ People will learn and grow closer in relationship with God
- ⇒ Faith Lilac Way will provide pastoral care to our members and community

Together we will support important missions including feeding the hungry, supporting children and families, seeking justice in our community and making sure all people know God's love.



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Thank you for Helping us Support Camp Noah!

Thank you to all of those who helped us tie blankets on October 16th for Camp Noah! Camp Noah travels across the country to support children recovering from natural disasters and each child attending Camp Noah gets their very own blanket. This is



a great way to help children feel safe and supported during a stressful time in their lives. And good news! We have more blankets to tie so we will have another service project day after worship on the last Sunday in November. Come help us support Camp Noah!