



FAITH NEWSLETTER



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2026



Taking Jesus on Your Summer Vacation

Summer often brings a welcome change of pace. Families pack suitcases, make travel plans, visit relatives, spend time out- doors, or simply enjoy a slower pace at home. Yet in the middle of all the planning, it is easy to treat faith as one more thing that gets left behind until the fall schedule begins again. The good news is simple and comforting: Jesus does not stay home when we go on vacation. He goes with us.

As Lutherans, we remember that Christ is not found only inside a church building or only during a regular Sunday routine. Through Baptism, we belong to Him wherever we are. Through His Word, He continues to speak to us. Through prayer, He in- vites us to bring our worries, joys, travels, and rest before Him. Whether we are on the road, at the beach, in the mountains, at a campground, or enjoying a quiet afternoon at home, Christ remains present with His people.

Continued on Page 2...

HOW DOES GOD
"BRING HIS
CHILDREN HOME?"
THROUGH YOU!
WHEN YOU INVITE
THEM TO HEAR
THE WORD OF GOD
WITH YOU!

INVITE
A FAMILY MEMBER,
NEIGHBOR,
CO-WORKER,
FELLOW
STUDENT, OR
FRIEND
TO JOIN YOU ON
SUNDAY
IN ATTENDING.

SUNDAYS 9:00 AM

REV. GENE SMITH
~ PASTOR ~

ANDREW SHAFFER
DAVID JUENGEL
~ DEACONS ~

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FAITH *Bringing God's Children Home*
Lutheran
Since 1937

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Vacations can be a gift from God. Rest, recreation, and time with loved ones remind us that we are not machines created only for work. God built times of rest into creation, and Jesus Himself took time to withdraw for prayer. Summer rest can help renew our bodies, strengthen family relationships, and open our eyes again to the beauty of God's creation around us.

Still, Christian rest is never rest apart from Christ. When we "take Jesus" on vacation, we are not placing Him in a suitcase like an extra item to bring along. Rather, we are learning to notice the Savior who is already with us, guiding us, forgiving us, and giving us opportunities to love our neighbors in ordinary settings, sometimes it's in those out-of-the-way places.

Martin Luther taught that God works through our everyday callings, or vocations. That means summer moments matter: a parent comforting a tired child, a grandparent telling stories, a teen helping carry luggage, a friend showing hospitality, or we as travelers treating others with patience and kindness. These ordinary acts of love are places where God serves our neighbors through us.

So this summer, enjoy the gift of rest. Laugh. Explore. Visit. Sit quietly. Watch sunsets. Share meals. Take pictures. But above all, remember who has claimed you: Jesus Christ, crucified and risen, who promises never to leave you or forsake you.

Closing Prayer

*Gracious Lord Jesus, thank You for the gift of summer, for times of rest, and for the people with whom we share the journey. Keep us safe in travel, joyful in gratitude, faithful in worship, and loving toward our neighbors. Remind us that wherever we go, we belong to You. In Your holy name we pray.
Amen.*

Article written by Deacon David Juengel

Skin Cancer Genes May Raise Risk for Other Cancers

Melanoma is the deadliest form of skin cancer. A recent study found that some people diagnosed with melanoma were more likely to have mutations (or changes) in certain genes. The changes they found were also linked to a higher risk for other types of cancer.

An NIH-funded research team looked at data from two large studies. One took place in the U.S. and the other in the United Kingdom. Both studies included healthy people and those with melanoma. The team analyzed the health records of nearly 700,000 people.

The researchers focused on eight genes known to increase the risk of melanoma. Mutations in these genes weren't common in healthy participants. They appeared more often in those with melanoma.

People younger than age 40 with a single melanoma were more likely to have one of the gene mutations. So were those with multiple melanomas.

The team found some genes were also linked to other types of cancer. People with certain gene changes showed an increased risk for prostate cancer, breast cancer, or myeloma.

"If someone with melanoma has one of these mutations, other tissues may face an elevated cancer risk," says NIH's Dr. Michael Sargen, who led the study.

More research is needed to verify that gene changes are linked to other types of cancer. If they are, gene testing may help some patients and their family members better understand their risk for other cancers.

<https://newsinhealth.nih.gov/2026/08/skin-cancer-genes-may-raise-risk-other-cancers>



THURSDAY MORNING BIBLE STUDY



Come join us for our **Thursday Bible Study** in the Fellowship Hall at **10AM!** We are currently studying **Genesis 11-14**. This is a discussion study and so will not be streamed online.



You are welcome to join us every **Sunday** for Bible Study after 9:00 am Service in the Fellowship Hall except on the last Sunday of the month when we have the Fellowship Brunch. We are currently studying "The Book of Ruth" led by Pastor Gene Smith and David Juengel.



"FOOD FOR FAITH"

Faith wants to take care of our families! Whether it is to celebrate the birth of a baby, help during chemo- therapy months for our brothers and sisters, or pro- vide meals when a family member is sick or has passed away, Food for Faith wants to help our fami- lies.

But we cannot do it without the help of all of you. Food for Faith needs volunteers who would be willing to provide a meal for our families that are in need. If you are interested in helping, there is a sign- up sheet on the bulletin board in the Church Narthex, or you can contact Sherry Llamas at 714-337- 7201.

"And do not forget to do good and to share with others, for with such sacrifices God is pleased." ~ Hebrews 13:16



August Celebrations!



Caroline Schroeder's 89th
Birthday!

Lea & Del's 70th Anniversary!

August Fellowship Brunch





Fellowship Brunch

The Next Fellowship Brunch will be Sunday,
September 27, 2026

Join us for our Sunday Fellowship Brunch and Visitor
Welcome! After Sunday service.

We hold these on the last Sunday of the month. We want to encourage fellowship for our whole congregation, as well as encouraging you to bring a guest with you that week! Bring them to our 9:00 am service and stay later for Brunch! The church will supply some of the brunch food, but we ask each family to bring a brunch item to share (muffins, egg casseroles, quiche, etc.), so we will have enough for our guests.

Fellowship time after Service:

Please join us at the coffee cart after 9:00 am Service for
some Fellowship time with your Faith family!

Coffee and snacks will be provided!



SCRIP Sales Schedule 2026



September 6, September 20, October 4, October
18, November 1, November 15, December 6,
December 20

Updated SCRIP List is on the table in the Narthex.

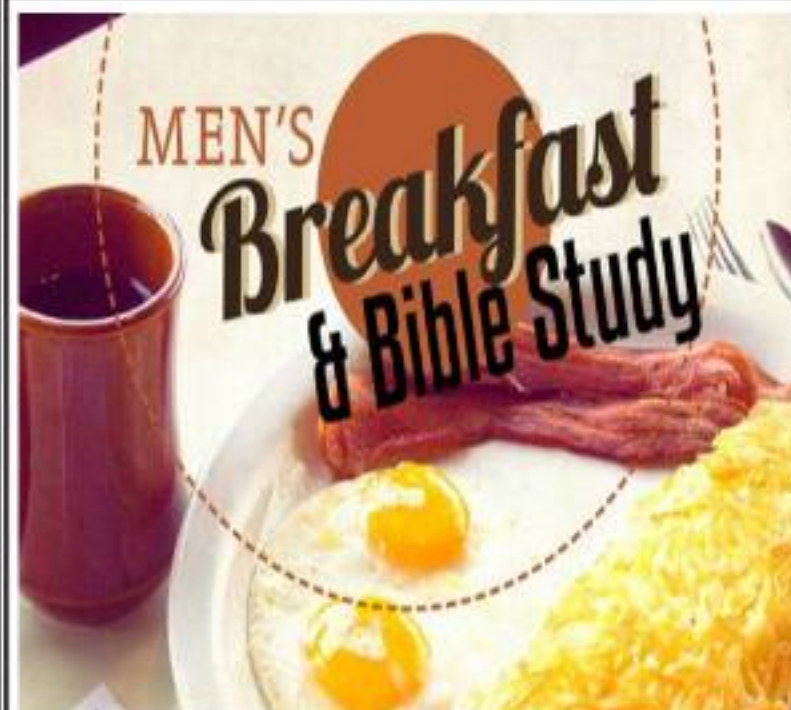


The new Byzantine Service will be
held on the first Saturday of every
month at 5:00 pm. Please join us
for a new worship service.

Next BOD
Meeting
September 16
@ 6:00 pm

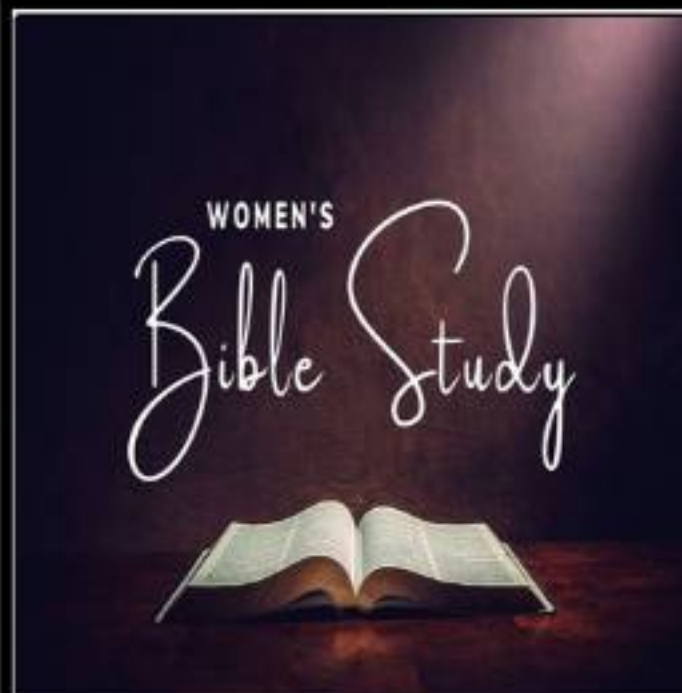


Next Elders
Meeting
NO MEETING THIS
MONTH

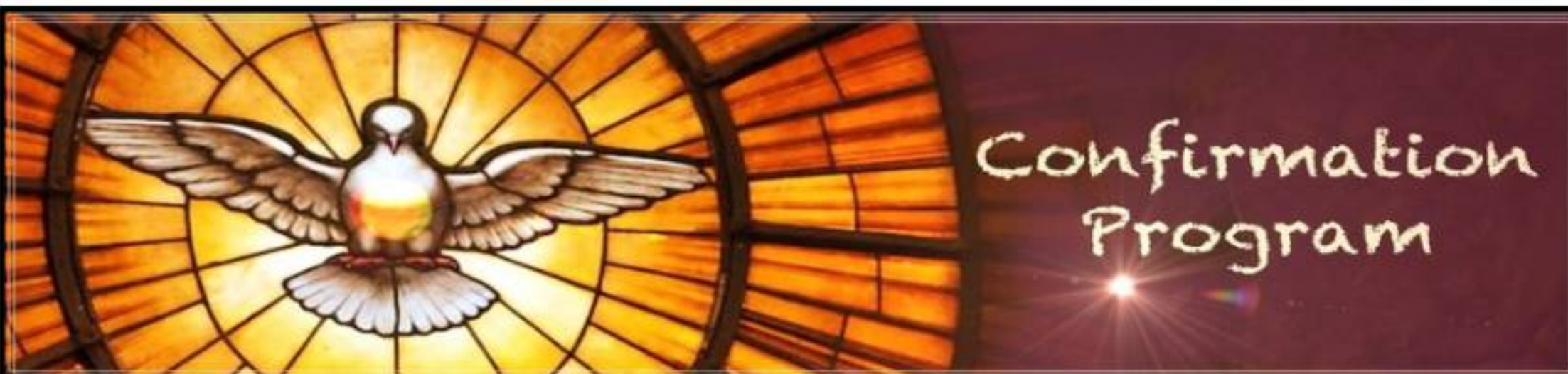


Men's breakfast & Bible Study is held every Saturday morning at 7:30 a.m. in the Fellowship Hall. They are currently studying Genesis.

Come on by and join them for food, fellowship and the Word of the Lord!



Join us for Women's Sunday Morning Bible Study from 8:10-8:50 am in the Fellowship Hall. We are currently studying the "Perfectly Flawed" (God transforms our weaknesses into strengths)" by Lisa Toney.



Faith's confirmation program will resume in September. More information to follow.



REMINDER

Mite Sunday is on the first Sunday of the Month. Turn in your mites on Sunday, September 6, 2026!

This Month's Anniversaries



Del and Lea Petersen 09/02



Birthdays of the Month



Cindi Noel 09/06

Sherry Llamas 09/07

William Summers 09/05

Cyndi Smith 09/18

Early October BIRTHDAYS

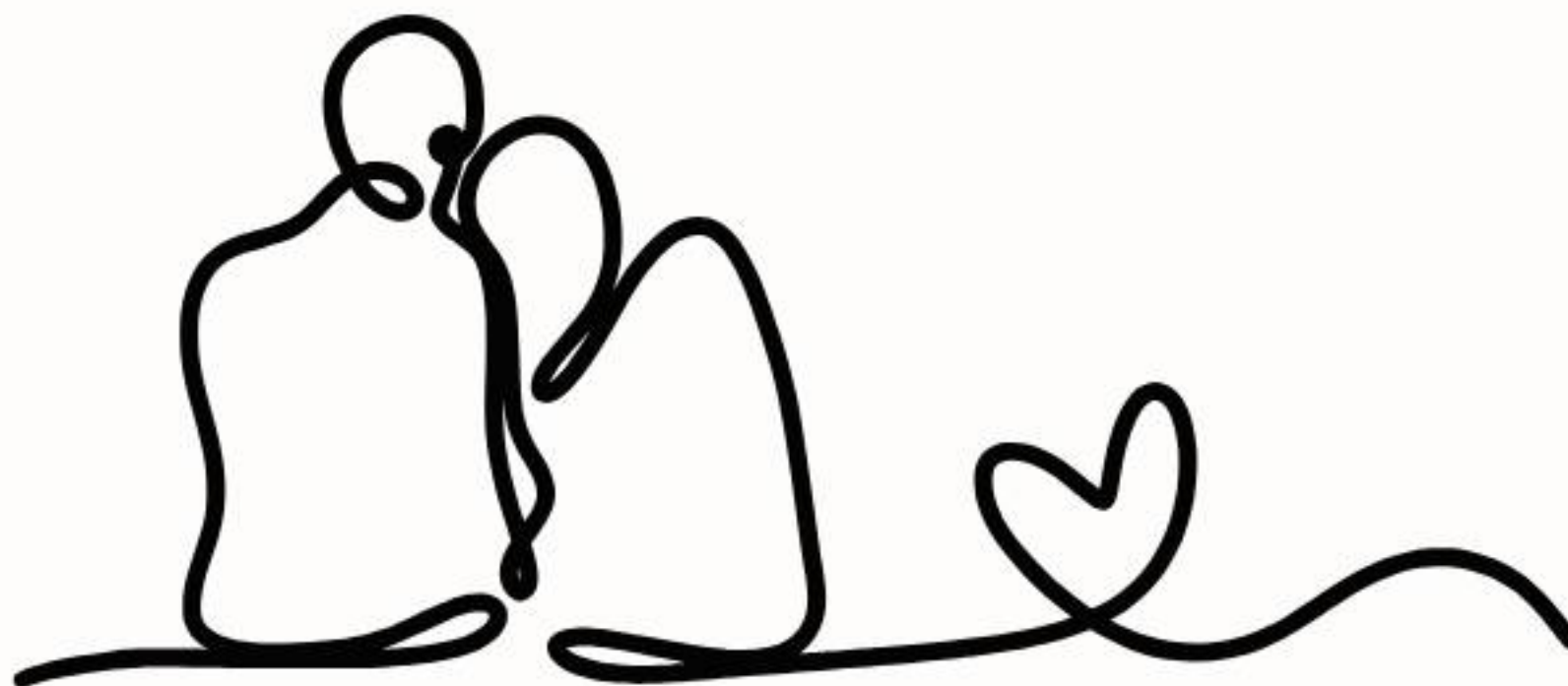
Amanda Creacy 10/12

*If we missed any birthdays or anniversaries,
please contact the Church. Thanks!*



It's official!

The Banns of Marriage were announced on Sunday, August 23, 2026 that **Dan Grubaugh** and **Barbie Brody** will be tying the knot on Saturday, October 17, 2026. We wish them many blessings as they start this new chapter in their lives!



Come Be A Part Of God's Great Gift!

As an act of Grace — undeserved love for us — God sent Jesus “to be sin for us, so that in Him we might become the righteousness of God.”

— 2 Corinthians 5:21b

Jesus took our sin & death and in exchange — week by week — we receive forgiveness,

eternal life and the status of holy children of God. Please join us at Faith each Sunday for:

9:00 AM Traditional Worship Service (inside sanctuary)

1:00 PM Online Worship Service [Upload] on Youtube.

www.youtube.com/@davidtito834/video

“Love is patient, love is kind. It does not envy, it does not boast, it is not proud. It does not dishonor others, it is not self-seeking, it is not easily angered, it keeps no record of wrongs. Love does not delight in evil but rejoices with the truth. It always protects, always trusts, always hopes, always perseveres.”

1 Corinthians 13:4-7

*Hello
Autumn*



September



Church Office Hours are Tuesday through Thursday 9:30 AM to 2:30 PM and Friday 9:30 AM to 12:30 PM. Pastor Gene is available Wednesday & Saturday from 9:00 am to 2:30 pm

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		1	2	3	4	5
8:10-8:50 am Women's Bible Study 9:00 am Worship Service <i>After 9:00am Service</i> Bible Study	7 <i>Office Closed</i> 7:30pm NA	8 9:15 am Food Set-up	9 10:00 am Food Distribution	10 10:00 am Bible Study	11 	12 7:30 - 9:00 am Men's Breakfast Bible Study 11:00am-6:00 pm Pastor Available 5:00pm Byzantine Service
13 8:10-8:50 am Women's Bible Study 9:00 am Worship Service <i>After 9:00am Service</i> Bible Study	14 7:30 pm NA	15	16 6 pm BOD Meeting	17 10:00 am Bible Study	18	19 7:30 - 9:00 am Men's Breakfast Bible Study 9:00 am Pastor Available
 20 8:10-8:50 am Women's Bible Study 9:00 am Worship Service <i>After 9:00 am Service</i> Bible Study	21 7:30 pm NA	22 9:15 am Food Set-up	23 10:00 am Food Distribution	24 10:00 am Bible Study	25	26 7:30 - 9:00 am Men's Breakfast Bible Study 9:00 am Learning to understand Hebrew 9:00 am Pastor Available
27 8:10-8:50 am Women's Bible Study 9:00 am Worship Service Fellowship Brunch	28 7:30 pm NA	29	30			