

JUNE 2025 NEWSLETTER

FAITH LUTHERAN CHURCH

714 N GRAND AVENUE

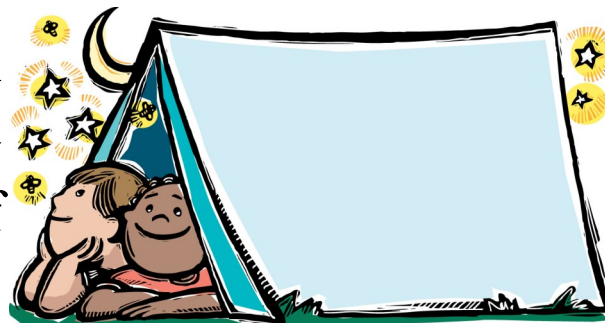
PIERRE, SD 57501

Camp Minneboji

June 15-21, 2025

Camp Minneboji is for kids who **have finished** 4th-8th grade. Honors Camp Minneboji is for those who **finished** 9th grade.

Participants are **NOT** to come to Camp Minneboji if they are sick. If you are sick and are likely to spread sickness, stay home. If this is the case, you may request and receive a refund of your deposit and payments made.



Be Thinking Ahead

Circuit Bible Camp

July 7-9, 2025

Students who are finishing 4th - 8th grade are invited to join us for Circuit Bible Camp, which takes place July 7-9. We will be travelling to Hot Springs and taking in some of the local natural sights. This includes hiking, swimming, and eating outdoors. Packing list includes: Bible, clothes for 2 days (plus extra just in case), toiletries and towel, swimsuit, shoes for hiking, and an outdoor game if you have any. Look for more information in upcoming bulletins.

Do Good!

The Cloud of Witnesses

“Since we are surrounded by so great a cloud of witnesses...let us run” (Hebrews 12:1). How much running do you do in your life? Maybe your running days are long behind you. Maybe running is one of those things that you know you should be doing. As for me, I run for two reasons: towards ice cream, and away from danger.

My daughter, Anna, recently participated in “Jefferson Strong” (formerly Girls on the Run). She trained and eventually ran a 5K with other girls at her school. The rest of the family came out on the day of her race. We wanted to cheer her on. We got to sit in reasonably comfortable chairs while Anna ran. We sat by the start/finish line. Every time that Anna came around, we made a lot of noise and cheered as she ran. She finished her race, doing better than she did last year. Great improvement, and above all, much more running than her dad can do.

The teacher in Hebrews has similar encouragement. He says, “let us run.” He is not a coach on the Jefferson Strong program. Instead, the teacher is talking about our lives. “Let us run.” Such a simple statement, but the doing of it is fairly complex. It took Anna several weeks to prepare herself for her run. Our Christian race works a little bit differently. There is not a separate preparation phase and running phase. It all happens together. As we run, we are also training ourselves to continue running.

You have some cheerleaders, so to speak, on the sidelines. The teacher is referring back to chapter 11, where he has listed some of the more prominent people in the Old Testament. Our list of faithful examples from the Bible is rich. So many of those people face difficult obstacles and overcame them by the faith that God had given. Yet our cheerleaders are also physically among us, the people who worship alongside you. Their very presence in your life is an act of cheering. Keep running, friend, they may be saying, as each of you runs together.

My encouragement has another encouragement: an invitation. During the Sundays of June and July, we are going to read the book of Hebrews. Join us between services as we go through the book. You will also hear more in depth about some of those faithful witnesses in the sermons of June and July. All of it is aimed at repeating the simple-to-say but complex-to-do words of the teacher: “let us run.”

Pastor Sam



Do Good!

"FOR I KNOW THE PLANS....."

"For I know the plans I have for you, declares the Lord, plans for welfare and not for evil, to give you a future and a hope. Then you will call upon me and come and pray to me, and I will hear you." Jeremiah 29:11& 12

At the time of this writing, high school graduation is quickly approaching. I've been at Riggs and GMMS frequently the past couple weeks practicing for their final concerts of the school year. I've known the senior members of Riggs choir since they were in middle school and they are excited for and looking forward to their futures, whatever that may be.

The other day at Riggs, I was visiting with some of the senior guys. (One already has his Guard haircut, and I hardly recognized him when I first saw him!) Two of them are scheduled to head to South Carolina in July for basic training. Once that is completed, they will be members of the Army National Guard. Both also auditioned for the Army National Guard 147th Unit Band and were accepted.

So, we were having a conversation about the Guard, and the fact that it is a good deal regarding education, receiving a paycheck, etc. Another young man joined us and commented that he had thought about joining the Guard, but had some reservations about the military, especially, with unrest in the world at the present time, and possible threats of war that might involve the US. Bryce answered that it had also been on his mind, too, but the last time the Guard band was shipped out was in World War II. I interjected, "...and that was to raise the morale of our troops," to which Bryce answered, "Exactly!" God has plans for him, I thought.

I thought about my own life and the various twists and turns it has taken. Initially, I thought I wanted to study elementary education. Then, one day the Moorhead State University Symphonic Wind Ensemble and Jazz Band stopped at my school on their winter tour. Boy, did the music bug hit me after that! I loved band in high school -- it was usually the highlight of my day. We had a terrific band and a talented, enthusiastic and dedicated director. He encouraged me to major in music, and with that I applied to attend Moorhead State.

But before that, following my sophomore year of high school, the daughter of our Pastor was spending the summer with her folks. She was an organ student at Concordia Seward Nebraska and an accomplished organist. My mother thought after years of my piano lessons, it was the perfect opportunity for me to take some formal lessons. I spent the greater share of that summer playing (nonstop) pedal exercises and learning how to execute hymns properly. I played my first worship service that summer, and my first wedding the following year. I enjoyed playing organ and took additional lessons at college, but.... I was bent on being a band director!

I landed in Pierre in 1973 (what a cultural wasteland, I thought to myself), and became somewhat active in music at Faith Lutheran, as well as in the Pierre community. In 1978 I

Continued on page 4

Do Good!

"FOR I KNOW THE PLANS....." continued

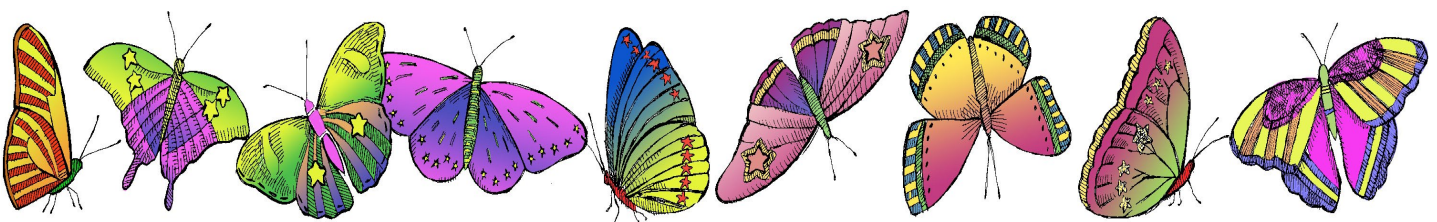
was asked to be the choir director at Faith. I was trained, but choral music wasn't my first love. I did enjoy it though, but I liked other aspects of music more. (I'd given up on the band director gig.) Eventually, my second husband nudged me -- no, pushed me -- to attend graduate school and study organ, which I did over three-years' time -- all the while raising two little boys. There were ups and downs, but I filled all the requirements, passed my orals, and graduated. A year later I got a (surprise) phone call from the principal at St. Joseph School asking me to apply for the elementary music position. I had an interview and was hired. I loved the creative aspect of teaching young minds and filling my classroom with musical energy. The same year I was asked to be an accompanist for Riggs students at Small Group, and eventually, chorus accompanist. So I began to start polishing up my piano skills.

My musical journey was all over the place -- and still is! Presently, I've been the Director of Music here at Faith since 2001. Every now and then I've asked myself if this is what I'm supposed to be doing and is it what God intended. Was it his plan for my life? After giving it some thought, I'm certain God had a hand in it. There is no doubt He's been at my side all these years. Doing church music was the farthest thing on my mind when I set out on my collegiate path. While I was writing this article, the song "Borning Cry" came to mind. It is a love song between God and the singer -- the song being written from God's point of view. He has loved us from the beginning of time and continues to love us throughout the seasons of our life. The music gives us a sense of the timelessness of God.

I'm going to be praying for God's blessings on Bryce and Gavin as they set off on their journey to basic training for the Guard, playing in the Guard band and starting college. I'm also praying for Nathan, who was hesitant to join the Guard. He has big dreams, too. He aspires to be a research scientist in the field of immunology -- something I'm very close to. I have an autoimmune disorder that's been flaring up, affecting my joints and making it painful to play piano. Will it get better -- or will it worsen? Only God knows.....

*"I was there to hear your borning cry,
I'll be there when you are old.
I rejoiced the day you were baptized
to see your life unfold."*

Karen Lindbloom



Do Good!

Independence Day

Every 4th of July our central South Dakota communities of Fort Pierre and Pierre celebrate two days of activities to celebrate the Independence of our nation with a rodeo performance on both the 3rd and 4th at 7:00 p.m. to entertain the public. On the 4th there is a parade through Ft. Pierre commencing at 10:00 a.m.



In preparation for the 4th of July celebration and having the opportunity to serve the number of people in and around our towns and community, Faith Lutheran Church has the privilege to share the love we have for God and proclaim that God sent His only Son to save us all from our sins. We as a congregation use this marvelous opportunity to witness to the lost, to proclaim God's love to all and to invite all to worship with us. The float with its Christian theme, our beautiful motor coach with its Christian message, and tracts that we pass out to the public during the parade are methods we use to share Jesus.

The Board of Missions and Evangelism is asking for the support of the congregation through:

1. **PRAY** that those attending the parade would be moved by the work of the Holy Spirit through Faith Lutheran's evangelism.



2. **RIDE** in the motor coach during the parade... let's fill it full, in support of Faith Lutheran Church.

3. **WALK** the parade route spreading the message of God through Christian materials.



Do Good!

MEXICO MISSION TEAM

The Mexico Mission trip took place May 23– May 31, 2025. This year there were 25 missionaries on the trip. The team is looking forward to sharing the Lord's Good News with all the people He has already planned and for building a home for a family in need. Thank you for all your support for this journey.

"I am the vine; you are the branches. If you remain in me and I in you, you will bear much fruit; apart from me you can do nothing." John 15:5

OUR 2025 TEAM:

Dennis Ryckman, Carolyn Ryckman, Samuel Ryckman, Cassandra Ryckman, Joshua Ryckman, Roland Degen, Shenal Premarathna, Brian Zeeb, Shannon Zeeb, Broch Zeeb, Gracie Zeeb, Bryant Zeeb, Shawnie Zeeb, Kinley Manning, Aurora Corrales, Desiree Perez, Anna Rutherford, Ezra Rutherford, Ajey Rutherford, Kamora Rutherford, Gracie Rutherford, Avry Rutherford, Evan Rutherford, Bridger Gruber and Gavin Townley

Do Good!

REVEREND STURZENBECHER INSTALLED AS SOUTH DAKOTA DISTRICT PRESIDENT

Reverend Randy Sturzenbecher was installed as the 15th President of the LCMS South Dakota District. The service happened on Sunday, May 4 in a service at Divine Shepherd Lutheran Church, Black Hawk, where he had been serving as pastor. 4th Vice-President of the Synod, Reverend Dr. Nabil Nour was the officiant, while Reverend Dr. Michael Kumm was the preacher.



Do Good!



POTLUCK DINNER FOR SENIORS

FOREVER YOUNG

Our Forever Young gathering for June will be **Thursday, June 19, at noon**. We are having Regular potluck. Beverage is provided. This is a good way for our **55 years old and older members** to fellowship, have a great meal, and get to know newer members. We meet in the fellowship hall/gym by the kitchen. All are welcome. Please join us!



Father's Day

This & That Official Acts

Baptisms

Ren Dale Ryckman
Oaklynn Ann Faye Tronvold



Installation of New Church Officers

June 1 at our 8:30 am
and/or our 11:00 am
worship services.

Any new officers not able to attend on Sunday will be installed during our Wednesday, June 4th evening service at 7:00 pm.

Outgoing Board Members

Please turn in your church key (if you have one) and your binder so we may pass them on to our new board members. Bring them to the office and leave them with Helen or Pastor Sam. Thanks for your service to our church family!



The deadline for articles going into the July/August newsletter need to be submitted to Helen by **June 18** before noon.

Do Good!

Faith Lutheran Daycare

May was busy for the directors as we each took some vacation time in and are excited to allow our full-time staff to have some vacation time as well. We are looking forward to a busy summer with the children that will be heading off to Kindergarten; Mr. Adam has a great summer planned with lots of fun activities. We also enjoyed Muffins with Mom for Mother's Day, good turnout. We have Donuts with Dad planned for Father's Day

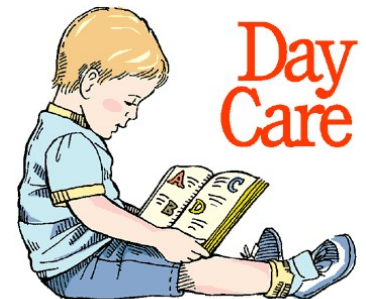
We want to remind everyone that we have an open-door policy if people would like to ask questions, come see the daycare, express concerns, etc. We always have room for improvement and want to continue to have the best place for children to learn and grow in the presence of God.

Thank you everyone who has been supporting and praying for the daycare, its mission, its staff, its children, and the program as a whole. We would not exist without your support!

God bless,

Kim Jensen/Mandy Vogel

daycare@faithluth.com



Fourteenth Annual Diaper Derby ends Father's Day, June 15, 2025

Donations for the Fourteenth Annual Diaper Derby **will continue through Father's day, June 15!** Please bring your donations of new diapers (any size) and baby wipes and place them in *the crib in the Narthex*. Three area agencies and families will benefit from your donations:

Birthright, PARS and Missouri Shores Shelter.

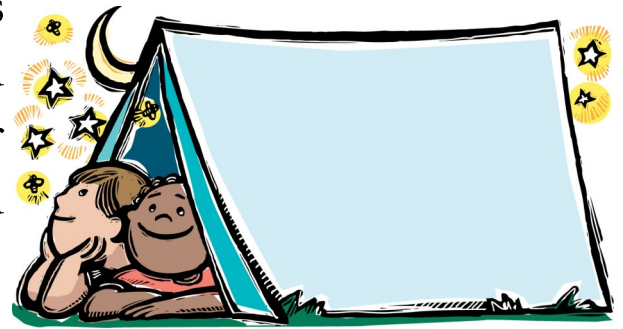


Do Good!

YOUTH NEWS

Camp Minneboji

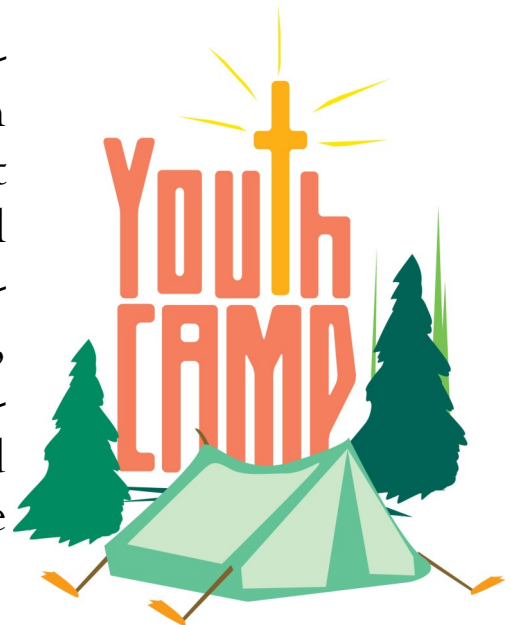
Camp is scheduled for **June 15-21, 2025**. Minneboji is a Lutheran summer camp program led by our South Dakota and Minnesota South districts of the LCMS and hosted at Camp Okoboji in Milford, Iowa. Through Bible study, talks with missionaries, music, crafts, and sports, your student will develop their sense of who God has made them and called them to be.



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