

The Grape

Vine

Faith Lutheran Church

Lake Hanska Lutheran Church



May 2026

Happenings in & around the Parish

NEW service *Times*
Come & Worship with Us



Sundays, May 1 thru August 31

Lake Hanska	9:00 AM
Faith	10:30 AM

Sunday, May 10th



**Newsletter
Deadline
Friday,
May 15th
Get those
articles in!**



Join Us For Worship!

If you are searching for a church home or are currently a member, we want to extend a warm welcome to you. Faith & Lake Hanska observe the "Open" communion policy - for all people in Christ are welcome at our Lord's Table.

The April showers are behind us and the May flowers begin to bloom. It seems sad that May also highlights the winding down of activities at school. May brings with it four special Sundays for us. On the 3rd, six wonderful young women will reaffirm their baptismal vows at their confirmation. The next week, on the 10th, we will honor our mothers and all women who care for others. The following week, the 17th, we will celebrate our young people who will complete their Madelia Public School education. Finally on the 24th we will celebrate those who have given their lives for the protection of our country as well as our freedoms. We also take that time to remember our loved ones who have joined together in the heavenly grace of our Savior.

The Memorial Day holiday marks the unofficial beginning of summer and with it people begin a busy time of travel, lake time, outdoor projects. It is easy at this time to become so busy that remembering to worship as a community becomes harder for many. But with the promise of His resurrection we are assured that God is always with us - no matter where we are or what we are doing.

This May marks 15 years since my best friend, my brother, passed away on Mother's Day 2011. At his funeral, he requested two songs that are both meaningful to me, but, also are themes we need to keep in mind as we enter the busyness of summer. One was *"It Is Well with My Soul"* or as we have it in the ELW *"When Peace like a River."* We have that promise of His return and in the meantime it is well with our souls.

The second hymn he requested, sung at the cemetery, was *"Lift High the Cross"* and our office manager played the melody on her trumpet. We just were reminded of the power of the cross at Easter time and let us go forth throughout the year remembering what we received on the cross and always "lift it high!"

Happy summer everyone!

Just one of you in Christ - Ralph

READINGS FOR MAY

DATE	FIRST READING	PSALM	SECOND READING	GOSPEL
Sunday, May 3 5 th Sunday of Easter	Acts 7:55-60	31:1-5, 15-16	1 Peter 2:2-10	John 14:1-14
Sunday, May 10 6 th Sunday of Easter	Acts 17:22-31	66:8-20	1 Peter 3:13-22	John 14:15-21
Sunday, May 17 7 th Sunday of Easter	Acts 1:6-14	68:1-10, 32-35	1 Peter 4:12-14; 5:6-11	John 17:1-11
Sunday, May 24 Day of Pentecost	Acts 2:1-21 <i>or</i> Numbers 11:24-30	104:24-34, 35b	1 Corinthians 12:3b-13 <i>Or</i> Acts 2:1-21	John 20:19-23 <i>Or</i> John 7:37-39
Sunday, May 31 The Holy Trinity	Genesis 1:1—2:4a	8	2 Corinthians 13:11-13	Matthew 28:16-20

C h u r c h C o u n c i l s

Faith

Lori Pietsch
Randy Gustafson
 Stacy Reed
 Randy Gustafson, Arlo Feder
 Jane Piepgras, Kathy Guyer
 Ben Odegard, Chad Becker,
Pam Bocoock, Stacy Reed
 Lori Pietsch, Cindy Lehman,
 Sherri Gustafson, Mary Feder
 Steph Odegard, Tammy Krebs,
 Julia Young, Patty Young

President
Vice President
Secretary
Financial Secretary
Treasurer
Trustees

Deacons
Board of Education

Lake Hanska

Melissa Engelhart
 Jim Lilleodden
 Cheryl Doe
Bonnie Lilleodden
Beth Kral
 Brian Kjelshus,
 Norman Skarphol
 Pam Kjelshus,
 (Position Open)

WELCA Coordinator Bonnie Lilleodden

BOLD NAMES = Joint Executive Board



Lake Hanska Lutheran
 Sunday, May 3rd Time TBD
Faith Lutheran
 Thursday, May 7th 7:00 PM



Social Media for our Churches

Faith:

Website:

www.faithlutheranmadelia.org
[Facebook.com/FOSParish](https://www.facebook.com/FOSParish)
[YouTube/FaithLutheranMadelia](https://www.youtube.com/channel/UC...)

Lake Hanska:

[Facebook.com/Lake Hanska Lutheran Church](https://www.facebook.com/LakeHanskaLutheranChurch)

Vital Statistics

<u>Faith</u>	<u>Attendance</u>	<u>Offering</u>
March 22	40	\$ 1,411.00
March 29	40	\$ 1,406.00
April 5 Easter	100	\$ 3,968.00
April 12	41	\$ 1,417.00
<u>Lake Hanska</u>		
March 22	25	\$ 2,622.00
March 29	36	\$ 430.00
April 5 Easter	84	\$ 1,940.00
April 12	36	\$ 785.00

2026 Faith Altar Guild

May:

Jane Piepgras
 Stephanie Piepgras
 Stacy Uhde

June:

Bob & Jane Sorenson

July:

Need Volunteers

August:

Need Volunteers

September:

Barb & Bruce Nelson

October:

Julie & Mark Hoeft
 Chelsea Hoeft
 Sarah Hoeft

November:

Cindy & Brian Lehman

December:

Arlo & Mary Feder
 Lori Pietsch



Monday, May 25th

Memorial Day

A day to remember and honor those who made the ultimate sacrifice while serving in our military

Don't forget your local Cemetery!

Perpetual care and maintenance fees are continually growing. They are in need of donations to maintain the dignity and beauty of your Church's cemetery. Contact any board member to make your donation today.

Men's Morning Out

Saturday, May 9th & 23rd
 8:30 AM
 Dean Neumann's

Ruth Bible Study

Monday, May 18th
 9:00 am
 Lake Crystal American Legion

Happenings in the Parish recently

Funerals

Weddings

Baptisms 4/12 Maggie Jo Visher (F-Private)
 4/25 Wesley Willard Reed (F-Private)

CONFIRMATION CORNER ~ May

3 10:30 AM-Faith Confirmation Sunday

Lake Hanska Lutheran Church Council Meeting March 22, 2026

The March 22, 2026, Lake Hanska Lutheran Church council meeting was called to order by President Melissa Engelhart at 11:37am, in the name of the Father, Son and Holy Spirit. Minister Ralph was at meeting forgoing the devotions this time.

Secretary's report approved as written.

Treasurer's report was tabled until next meeting.

Financial secretary stated that offerings are running short in comparison to last year at this time.

Minister Ralph's report reflected that he attended a day long session at Gustavus Adolphus and a part of his continuing ed. He also attended the annual meeting of the Watonwan River Conference at Augsburg church in St. James. Wednesday Lenten services began on Feb 25th and attendance at the 3:30pm service at Lake Hanska has been encouraging and Faiths numbers include the 12 confirmation students. They will be addressing Lenten services for next year. Synod assigned a mentor from the retreats- Scott Richards. Ralph stated that he has trained 5 people from Faith to help with shut-in visits. Ralph requested a list of shut-ins or members to visit.

Deacons reported that services are going fine right now with those that are taking on reading in church, but are always looking for volunteers to do so.

Trustees reported they are ready to put the snow equipment away and get the mower schedule rolling. Thank you to everyone who helped with snow removal this year. Norman S has contacted Pete K about what types of trees would be good to plant in replacing the dead evergreen trees.

President Melissa Engelhart has requested that the church be power washed before the first wedding of the season. VP Jim Lilleodden will contact Loren Johns or get his phone number for President Melissa Engelhart. It was also discussed to trim the evergreens on each side of the church in the front as they are rubbing up against the church.

VP Jim Lilleodden will be taking the AED to New Ulm Medical Center, Jeff Allerson to replace pads and make sure in working order.

Water softener is leaking and the drain also may be plugged. President Melissa will have Jeff Pladsen look at it.

We will also be cleaning the carpets after the spring muddy season and before 1st wedding. Pam and Pres Melissa will be getting estimates.

President Melissa Engelhart left message with the New Ulm Journal that the Ministers name and time of service needs to be updated. Lake Hanska will be put on KEYC news going forward when there is a closure due to weather or any unforeseen circumstances.

We have 4 weddings that are being held at Lake Hanska this year so far: June 20th, August 8th, December 5th and December 12th. There will be a corkboard/calendar going up in the office that only the President or Minister may make changes to, but this will be able to be viewed by all members, so they are aware of what is scheduled already when planning.

We discussed participating somehow in the Hanska celebrations this summer. The 4th of July service that is usually held out at Lake Hanska Park will be the 50th Anniversary of the beginning of that service.

Sue Stoesz has ordered lilies for Easter, however if you would like to bring a plant or flower to celebrate feel free to do so.

Cheryl m/m to commence the meeting and Pam s/m, motion carried

Next Church Council meeting May 3rd at 9:00am

Cheryl Doe
Lake Hanska Lutheran Church Secretary

Faith Lutheran Church Council Minutes –Mar. 12, 2026

President - Lori Pietsch

V. President - Randy Gustafson

Secretary - Stacy Reed

Treasurers - Kathy Guyer, Jane Piepgras

Deacons - Sherri Gustafson, Cindy Lehman

S.A.M - Ralph Flitter

Trustees - Ben Odegard, Chad Becker, Pam Boccock

BOE - Steph Odegard

Secretary's Report:

Reviewed February minutes as printed in the newsletter.

Treasurer's Report:

February expenses were \$15,353.98 and receipts \$8,876.05. Kathy reported she has asked for a larger garbage bin to be delivered. Also discussed was bringing in a 2 or 4 yd dumpster for the week of VBS.

Trustees Report:

The glass panel by the front sliding doors was shattered a few weeks ago, a police report was filed. The replacement cost is \$933.40 and has been ordered. Ben presented a quote for security cameras through Christensen Communications. We discussed the need and cost of these cameras and will further discuss them at the next meeting.

Deacons:

Easter garden order forms are available in the sanctuary.

- ◆ 3/21- 1st Communion class
- ◆ 3/29- Palm Sunday
- ◆ 4/5 - Easter Sunday with children's sermon
- ◆ 5/3- Confirmation Sunday
- ◆ 5/17- Senior Graduation Recognition

We have received 2 large cash donations for VBS.

Board of Ed:

April 29th will be the last night of JAM with a Parent/family night. Confirmation students are seeking donations for the food shelf. In April the students will be shopping for the food shelf with the donations collected. Last year they collected \$1,070. A donation plate is also located in the back of the church for food shelf donations.

Ralph's Report:

Ralph's visits this month were 5 Home/1 Living Meadows, 1 Office visit and 3 at Pray without Ceasing. He has attended a daylong session as part of the Partners in Education of the SW MN Synod and also the annual meeting of the Watonwan River Conference. Attendance for Wednesday Lenten services at Faith has been spotty. Ralph would like to address this for next year, do we need to change the time of the service? Ralph continues to meet with his mentors Scott Richards and Sarah Zender. He will be attending his 3rd and final SAM retreat April 19-21.

Motion to accept reports was made by Ben/seconded by Kathy.

Old Business:

Cranberry hymnals have been purchased. A listing was reviewed for the visiting committee. The new website is operating and looks great, take a look and let us know what you think. The new website is:

faithlutheranmadelia.org

New Business:

Spring clean-up is scheduled for 4/29 at 6:00 pm. Please consider helping us. We have spoken to an organ repair specialist and received a quote for a service call to fix. They believe it is a magnetic issue with a stuck F pedal.

Chad made a motion to approve the organ repair and Ben seconded.

Respectfully submitted, Stacy Reed-Secretary

Please pray for ALL serving in the Military ~ both here and abroad ~

ANDREW McCumber ANDREW Peterson
KADEN Johnson JAC Gunderson



Prayer Concerns



**** Please help us to keep updated on our prayer concerns ****

Let us know as peoples' health situations change by calling the church office (642-8500)
or by emailing faithofficemadelia@gmail.com

Prayer's will be listed in the bulletin for 2 weeks, unless otherwise notified.

**** Thank you! ****

Faith member, Kathy Crissler, age 76, passed away peacefully in her sleep at Edina's Fairview Hospital on Easter evening, April 5, 2026. Kathy passed away, surrounded by her family, from complications of Parkinson's disease. Her funeral was on Saturday, April 25th at the Community Covenant Church in Huntley, MN. Please keep Kathy's family and friends in your prayers.

Confirmed on May 3rd at FAITH

**Alayna Rose Caraway
Kendra Lucille Frederickson
Khloe Louise Johnson
Addison Kaye Odegard
Brook Lyn Rannow
Kendra Mae Rannow**



GRADUATING

SENIORS

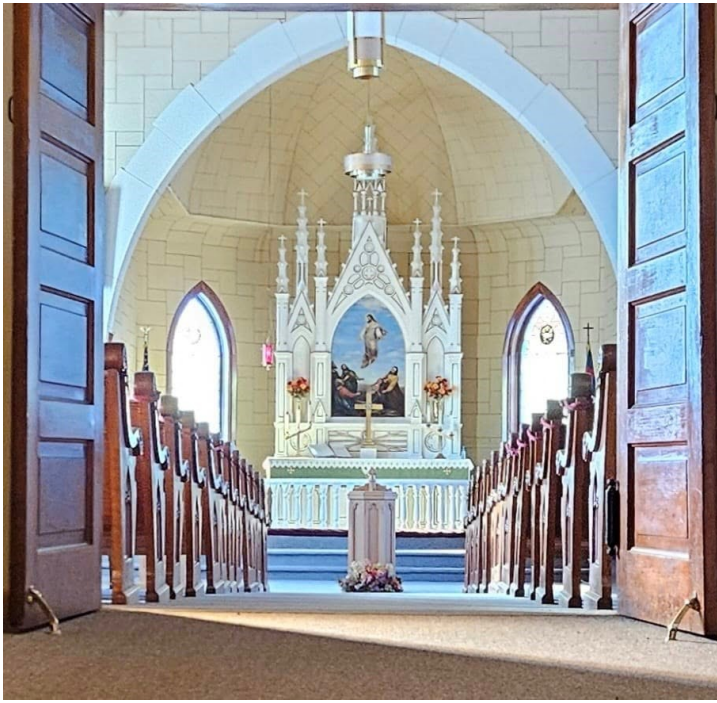
from FAITH

**Noel Davila
Lauryn Grev
Caden McMullen
Adrienne Missling
Makayla Sorenson**

"I know the plans I have in mind for you, declares the Lord; they are plans for peace, not disaster, to give you a future filled with hope. When you call me and come and pray to me, I will listen to you. When you search for me, yes, search for me with all your heart, you will find me."

JEREMIAH 29:11-13





**HE IS RISEN!
HE IS RISEN INDEED!
ALLELUIA!**

The churches were alive
with the beautiful
Lilies and Spring Flowers!

Shown:
Lake Hanska (left) ~ church entry
(didn't have a pic from Easter)
Faith (bottom) ~ Easter Garden

**A HUGE Thank you to everyone
who helped beautify our Sanctuaries.**

Lake Hanska

- Marlys Olstad
- Virginia Kjelshus & family
- Deanne Pizel
- Shirley Brudellie & family
- Lynn & Jane Ahlness & family
- Roxanne Oscarson & Renee Bertilson
- Cheryl Doe & family
- Beverly & Darryl Olson
- Bentdahl Family
- Dennis Broste
- Larry & Suzanne Stoesz

Faith

- Arlo & Mary Feder
- Elsie Pace
- Brian & Cindy Lehman
- Reed & Denn family
- Jane Piepgras
- Dori Cummins
- Barb Overlie
- Kathy Guyer
- Joyce Stensland
- Sherri & Randy Gustafson
- Chalina & Michael Forstner
- Chad & Angie Becker
- Audrey Anderson
- Lowell & Lori Pietsch
- Caryn McLean
- Bruce & Barb Nelson



A communion class was held
March 21st at
Faith.

Instructors were
Ralph Flitter and
Lori Pietsch.

Attending were: Vivian Cooling, Rorrick Martinez,
Jackson Halvorson, and Jacob VanHale.

Another communion class was held April 25th
with several children attending. Pictures to come
in June newsletter.

News From Lake Hanska Lutheran Church

Our Church Building - Our church building will be used this year for 4 weddings besides other worship and events. Please help keep our building neat and clean by helping to keep the carpets and bathrooms clean. Call Melissa Engelhart at 920-836-9564 if you can pitch-in.

Food Shelf Report - We are so grateful to deliver goods at the end of each month. It is so easy to drop any non-perishable groceries, cleaning supplies, or hygiene supplies into the box provided in the Narthex of the church.

WELCA Quilters Report - 5 ladies met on Wednesday, April 8th for another get-together. They worked on 2 quilts. We'd love for you to come join us. If you have any old sheets or materials in good shape, or donating cash to buy more materials, it would be appreciated as our resources for funds are limited. If interested, we do also sell our quilts for \$25 each.

Bible Study - Ralph Flitter leads us in a more in-depth look of the gospel from the worship the Sunday before we meet. This is a very relaxed, informal discussion of the Gospel. Everyone (men-women-Faith Lutheran members and non-members) are welcome to join us. You do not have to do quilting if you come for the Bible Study. We will enjoy coffee and treats (optional: bring a treat to share) during the study. We look forward to seeing you.

Living Meadows General Store - The Living Meadows at Luther celebrated the Spring Fundraiser on Tuesday, April 14th at Trinity Lutheran Church in Madelia. The lunch was plentiful with salads of all kinds, ham sandwiches, and cupcakes. The Silent Auction went really well having many items to bid on. A raffle drawing with many gifts to pick from was also held. The room was full of many hungry people so we should have many funds to treat the residents of Living Meadows with many good treasures. Thank you to all who came and to those that didn't, seriously think of coming next April. You won't be disappointed.

Lawn Mowing Time - This time has almost arrived. A list of mowing schedule will be sent out to everyone. Please respect your time slot. If for some reason you cannot mow during that time slot, please trade with another person to keep our property looking excellent all summer. Thank you for your help.

*It takes a community...You are invited to the 2nd Annual
Community Baby Shower*

benefiting Madelia Food Shelf

Wednesday, May 13th at Salem Church ~ 109 3rd St SE, Madelia

*Doors open at 6:15 PM * * Shower at 6:30*

Drop off locations at area churches and Hope & Faith

Bring package (s) of diapers to be entered in drawing!

*Other items needed (but not limited to): Diapers, Baby/Toddler food,
formula, wipes, baby laundry detergent, toddler snacks*

Monetary donations also accepted








Light refreshments ~ guest speaker ~ games ~ fellowship

Supported by the Madelia Ministerial Association

COFFEE &
CONVERSATION
WELLSPRING
Education Event
Wednesday, May 21st
@ 3:00 PM
Faith Lutheran Church
Social Hall - Madelia
The topic will be:
BASIC FIRST AID FOR
OLDER ADULTS
St. James Ambulance
Director, Holly Wallace,
will discuss basic first aid
practices.
Please call to RSVP:
WELLSPRING
Faith in Action
507-375-1276

May 2026 Faith ~ Lake Hanska

God's People... Leading Others to the Love of Jesus

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
Asian American Month Date Your Mate Month Lupus Awareness Month Older Americans Month	M Barbecue Month Foster Care Month Mystery Month Salsa Month	A Bike Month Hamburger Month National Salad Month Recommitment Month	Y Blood Pressure Month Gifts from the Garden Month National Photograph Month Pacific Islander Heritage Month		1	2
3 Switch Sunday Communion Confirmation Sunday (F) 9:00 AM Lake Hanska LH Council 10:30 AM Faith Fifth Sunday of Easter	4	5 10:00 AM Chair Yoga (F) 11:15 AM Pray without Ceasing 1:00 PM Coffee and Conversation	6 9:00 AM Lake Hanska Quilting	7 10:00 AM Chair Yoga (F) 	8	9 8:30 AM Men's Morning Out
10 9:00 AM Lake Hanska 10:30 AM Faith  Sixth Sunday of Easter	11	12 10:00 AM Chair Yoga (F) 11:15 AM Pray without Ceasing	13	14 10:00 AM Chair Yoga (F) 7:00 PM Faith Council	15 	16
17 Communion 9:00 AM Lake Hanska 10:30 AM Faith Seventh Sunday of Easter	18 9:00 AM Ruth Bible Study	19 10:00 AM Chair Yoga (F) 11:15 AM Pray without Ceasing	20	21 10:00 AM Chair Yoga (F)	22	23 8:30 AM Men's Morning Out
24 9:00 AM Lake Hanska 10:30 AM Faith 	25 MEMORIAL DAY 	26 10:00 AM Chair Yoga (F) 11:15 AM Pray without Ceasing	27 3:30-5:30 PM Madelia Food Shelf Open House	28 10:00 AM Chair Yoga (F)	29	30
31 9:00 AM Lake Hanska 10:30 AM Faith  The Holy Trinity	1 	2 10:00 AM Chair Yoga (F) 11:15 AM Pray without Ceasing 1:00 PM Coffee and Conversation	3	4 10:00 AM Chair Yoga (F)	5 <div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px; text-align: center;">Synod Assembly Gustavus Adolphus "Grounded in Hope"</div>	6

Faith Lutheran Church

306 Abbot Ave SW ~ Madelia, MN 56062

Phone: 507-642-8500

Facebook.com/FOSParish

Website: www.faithlutheranmadelia.org

E-mail: faithofficemadelia@gmail.com

Lake Hanska Lutheran Church

17923 115th St ~ PO Box 65 ~ Hanska, MN 56041

Phone: 507-439-6635

(FB) Lake Hanska Lutheran Church

Ralph Flitter ~ Synod Authorized Minister

Cell Phone: 507-317-4204 E-mail: flitterralph@gmail.com



The Grape Vine

Faith ~ Lake Hanska
Main Office Address
306 Abbot Ave SW
Madelia MN 56062

Non-profit Organization
U.S. Postage Paid
Madelia MN 56062
Permit #34

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

~ May ~

Worship Schedule-Time Change

Every Sunday: 9:00 AM @ Lake Hanska

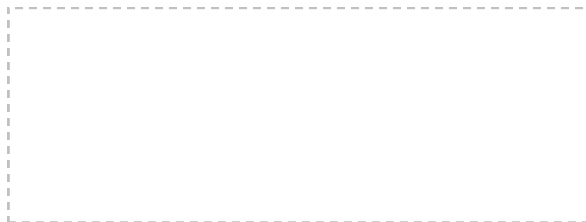
Every Sunday: 10:30 AM @ Faith

Faith Office Phone: 507-642-8500

Lake Hanska Phone: 507-439-6948

Faith Email: faithofficemadelia@gmail.com

Ralph Flitter Email: flitteralph@gmail.com



Office hours:

Joyce: Every afternoon except Friday

You can email the office with any information or questions.

You can call Ralph at 507-317-4204, Joyce at 507-642-8500,
your church president:

Faith: Lori Pietsch 507-317-4634 **Lake Hanska:** Melissa Engelhart 952-836-9564

or email the church at: faithofficemadelia@gmail.com

or Ralph at: flitteralph@gmail.com

for your church needs or assistance.

Lake Hanska ~ 9:00 AM In-Person & LIVE on Facebook

Communion is the 1st & 3rd Sunday of this month

Ushers: 3rd: Jim Lilleodden, Randy Kral

10th & 17th: Bonnie Lilleodden, Kathy Wright

24th & 31st: Norm Skarphol, Mike Paulson

Altar Committee: Beth Kral, Bonnie Lilleodden, Nancy Lilleodden

Reader

Accompanist

May 3 Confirmation

May 10 Mother's Day

May 17 Senior Sunday

May 24

May 31

Audrey Anderson

Mya Hanson

Audrey Anderson

Mya Hanson

Mya Hanson



Faith ~ 10:30 AM In-Person & LIVE on Facebook

Communion is the 1st & 3rd Sunday of this month

Altar Guild: Jane Piepgras, Stephanie Piepgras, Stacy Uhde

Reader

Accompanist

May 3 Confirmation

May 10 Mother's Day

May 17 Senior Sunday

May 24

May 31

Barb Overlie

Dorie Cummins

Audrey Anderson

Mya Hanson

Audrey Anderson

Mya Hanson

Mya Hanson

WE NEED YOUR HELP ~ SIGN UP TO READ, SING, OR PLAY!