

The Grape Vine

*Faith Lutheran Church
Lake Hanska Lutheran Church*



October 2026

Happenings in & around the Parish



Operation Christmas Child

It is that time of year again!
Time to continue collecting
for the boxes that will go to
children around the world
for Christmas!!

Do you have an extra notebook,
toothbrush, glue stick, colored
pencil pack, color crayons,
Beanie Baby, bar of Ivory Soap?

Any of these things are
appreciated ~ along with many
other things that can be sent
to a young boy or girl.

NO LIQUIDS

Bring your contributions to
Faith Lutheran Church.

There will be a collection table
in the entryway.

We will be packing the boxes on
Wednesday, November 4th.
**EVERYBODY IS WELCOME TO
COME AND HELP!!!**



*Ralph,
your giving nature
and unselfish ways
are a blessing
to everyone who
knows you.
Thank you for
all you do.*

Pastor Appreciation Sunday is October 11th

**DEADLINE FOR
NEWSLETTER ARTICLES**

Tuesday, October 13th

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 and Lake Hanska observe the "Open" communion policy -
for all people in Christ are welcome at our Lord's Table.

Where did the time go? Seems like we just celebrated the 250th anniversary of the country on July 4th and now we're looking forward to Halloween or in the church – All Saints Day. And of course, the new school year has brought a new year of JAM and confirmation. Both of these learning opportunities look like the largest groups since I have been your minister.

JAM had 40 kids I heard and as of this writing (9-22) we have 15 confirmation students. God is certainly challenging us to teach our youth about his great love and of the sacrifices he made for us through his Son, Jesus Christ.

We ended September on a high by giving 3yr olds and 3rd graders bibles and some of our cherished senior members either large print bibles or devotional books and we look forward to receiving new members during October.

I am so honored and proud to be involved with both congregations as we continue to live out our mission of being “God’s people leading others to the love of Jesus Christ.” In this busy time and age, it is of even more importance to live out our command to “love one another” each and every day. Following Christ at times can be challenging, but his great command is easy to do.

Let’s pray for all our farmers in this harvest season for their safety and bountiful harvest. And may we all be farmers for bringing in the harvest for the kingdom of God!

Just one of you in Christ ----- Ralph

SCRIPTURE READINGS FOR OCTOBER

DATE	FIRST READING	PSALM	SECOND READING	GOSPEL
Sunday, October 4 19 th Sunday after Pentecost	Isaiah 5:1-7	80:7-15	Philippians 3:4b-14	Matthew 21:33-46
Sunday, October 11 20 th Sunday after Pentecost	Isaiah 25:1-9	23	Philippians 4:1-9	Matthew 22:1-14
Sunday, October 18 21 st Sunday after Pentecost	Isaiah 45:1-7	96:1-13	1 Thessalonians 1:1-10	Matthew 22:15-22
Sunday, October 25 Reformation Sunday	Jeremiah 31:31-34	46	Romans 3:19-28	John 8:31-36

Church Councils

Faith

Lori Pietsch

Randy Gustafson

Stacy Reed

Randy Gustafson, Arlo Feder

Jane Piepgras, Kathy Guyer

Ben Odegard, Chad Becker,

Pam Bocock, 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

WELCA Coordinator Bonnie Lilleodden

BOLD NAMES = Joint Executive Board

Lake Hanska

Melissa Engelhart

Jim Lilleodden

Cheryl Doe

Bonnie Lilleodden

Beth Kral

Brian Kjelshus,

Norman Skarphol

Pam Kjelshus

(Position Open)



Lake Hanska

Faith

Thursday, October 8th 6:30 PM

October



Vital Statistics

Attendance

Offering

Faith

August 23 34 \$1,509.00

August 30 48 \$1,199.00

September 6 32 \$2,137.00

September 13 37 \$1,512.00

\$

Lake Hanska

August 23 Hanska 125 Community service

August 30 18 \$ 529.00

September 6 27 \$1,278.00

September 13 \$ 506.00

Social Media for:

Faith:

Website:

www.faithlutheranmadelia.org

Facebook.com/

Faith Lutheran Madelia

Lake Hanska:

Facebook.com/Lake Hanska

Lutheran Church

Wednesday J.A.M.

Jesus And Me

There are snacks, fun activities, music and Bible stories.

It is for grades K-6

and is from 3:15-5:00,

at Faith Lutheran Church

Please plan on joining in on the fun!!!

Ruth Bible Study

Monday, October 13th

9:00 AM

Lake Crystal American Legion

We would LOVE for you

to join us!

Men's Morning Out

Saturday, October 11th & 25th

8:30 AM at Dean Neumann's

49617 171st St

Lake Crystal, MN 56055

Have you moved?

Know someone who has?

Contact Joyce

507-642-8500 or email the office at

faithofficemadelia@gmail.com

if you/they want to continue receiving

The Grape Vine.

THANKS!

Faith & Lincoln Cemeteries

Perpetual care and maintenance fees are not a part of the church budget. They are both in need of donations to maintain the dignity and beauty of the cemeteries.

Please consider making a donation ~ any amount will be appreciated ~ with check made out to either Faith Cemetery or Lincoln Cemetery.

(Checks may be sent to Faith Lutheran Church)

Feel free to pass this information on! Thank you!

Faith/Lincoln Cemetery Board

Happenings in the Parish last month

Funerals

Weddings

Baptisms 9/22 Brynlee Mae Johnson (F)

10/20 Eliose Kae Friesen (F)



CONFIRMATION CORNER ~ October

- 1 NO Confirmation
- 8 6:00-7:30 PM Class
- 15 NO CLASS - MEA Break
- 22 6:00-7:30 PM Class
- 29 6:00-7:30 PM Class
- 31 4:30-6:00 PM Trunk or Treat

LAKE HANSKA LUTHERAN CHURCH COUNCIL - No minutes at printing

News From Lake Hanska Lutheran Church

The **Lake Hanska Quilting Group** met in September and made up 2 more quilts. We look forward to displaying them soon and then proudly giving them away. We have sold a few of the quilts that we made now in 2026 which is also fun. The next quilting date will be on Wednesday, October 7 at 9:00 AM.

Lake Hanska Church was very happy to deliver 43 pounds of food to the Brown County Food Shelf. They were so excited to receive those goods as they have been running very low. Any item or 2 that you can donate to the Brown County Food Shelf box in the narthex would be so very welcome. At the end of each month the goods are taken to the Shelf. Thank You so much!

Lawn Mowing The grass seems to keep growing, so please check with Brian Kjelskus if you can help out with this task.

Brown County Food Shelf

At Lake Hanska Lutheran Church there is a box labeled "Brown County Food Shelf" for purchased goods and a can for cash donations to be given to the Brown County Food Shelf in New Ulm. When the goods were taken in for August, they were very excited to see all the goods as they have been having trouble keeping up with the demands. The needs continue to grow, so even a can or 2 or a box or two are so very appreciated. Every item helps!!

The Brown County Food Shelf serves all the citizens of Brown County. It was good to hear that the Food Shelf does deliveries to needed people when there is a need. They did state that they have made deliveries to Hanska when it was needed.

Please consider the stewardship of supporting our neighbors in need. Thank you so much for your support!!

October Altar Committees

Lake Hanska: Sue Stoesz

Lanna Raatz

Faith: Julie Hoeft, Sarah Hoeft,
Chelsea Hoeft

October Ushers - Lake Hanska

4: Bonnie Lilleodden
Kathy Wright

11 & 18: Melissa Engelhart
Charlie Pladsen

25 Sue Stoesz
Lanna Raatz

Please pray for ALL serving in the Military

~ both here and abroad ~

JONAS Eldridge JAC Gunderson KADEN Johnson

ANDREW McCumber ANDREW Peterson

Prayer Concerns

If you have a prayer concern, please contact the church office (507-642-8500)

or by email: faithofficemadeli@gmail.com

**** Thank you! ****



Faith Lutheran Church Council Minutes – Sept. 10, 2026

Secretary's Report: August minutes accepted as printed in the newsletter.

Treasurer's Report: August expenses were \$11,193.74 and receipts \$9,741.08. We are currently sitting right in line with our annual budget.

Trustees Report: A motion light and handrail were installed in the sacristy room. Several service appointments have been scheduled for the building: Boiler and roof check, flooring maintenance and interior deep clean. A lift truck has been rented for fixing/changing of light bulbs in the sanctuary, this is scheduled for the weekend of Sept. 25th. Security camera project is waiting on equipment from CCC. Chad has received the snow removal contract for the 2026-2027 season. We will be replacing a portion of the SE corner of sidewalk that is cracked and lifting/sinking. We were notified by Gordon Flesch, our copier company, that our guaranteed maintenance agreement will not be renewed due to them no longer able to source the necessary replacement parts. We will begin researching copier options. We are still in need of a custodian, we will utilize Facebook and the Madelia Times Messenger for advertising this position.

Bell Tower update: We have contacted the company that originally installed the bell as they are still in business and offer service work. They did find our bell in the system, it was installed in 1959. Unfortunately with what needs to be repaired, the parts are obsolete and no longer available. The only option would be for them to come and remove the bell, assist in shipping it back to their factory in Cincinnati and replace the old AC inside striker with a new DC inside striker and return the bell to us for installation. The cost was estimated at \$32,000.00. This price does not include shipping, cost of crane/lift and electrical work needed when bell is replaced.

The company did provide other "sound of bell" options starting at a cost of \$13,700.00

At this time, we have tabled the discussion of the bell.

Deacons: Children's church changed to 9/27 which is also Bible Sunday.

- * Confirmation starts 9/30.
- * New member Sunday will be 10/11.
- * Trunk or Treat - Friday 10/30 at Faith with meal provided.
- * Operation Christmas Child - pack boxes Wednesday, 11/4
- * Shopping with Mrs. Claus - 12/12
- * Confirmation Sunday - April 25, 2027.

Board of Ed: JAM will start 9/16. Letters have been sent to kids and parents regarding the 2027 ELCA Youth Gathering June 28-July 2, 2027.

Ralph's Report: The month of August Ralph had 1 home visit, 4 sessions Living Meadows Pray without Ceasing (August marked 1 year for this), met with his mentor Scott Richards, officiated 1 wedding and 1 baptism. On August 23rd Ralph, along with others, held a worship service for Hanska's 125th anniversary. A big thank you to Mya Hanson for conducting the worship service at Faith. September will be busy with retreat, conferences and Synod council meeting.

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

Old Business: Most was discussed in Trustees' report.

New Business: Ralph will talk to Pastor Janet regarding a Thanksgiving service. Discussed the need for a dehumidifier in the social hall or having the air conditioning left on to help with the dampness and smell. Lori passed around new confirmation books and bible for our review. Discussed if Faith would be interested in providing the Live Nativity scene for Razzle Dazzle this year.

Motion to adjourn was made by Ben and seconded by Sherri.

Respectfully submitted, Stacy Reed-Secretary



Bible Sunday

was held at Faith on
Sunday, September 27th.

Bibles were given to 3-year-olds,
3rd graders, and our Seniors (80+ year
olds)

As there has not been a Bible Sunday
for a few years, there was some catching
up to do with these groups.



At the time of writing
this article, the names of
the kids who received
their Bible was left at the
church. So, instead of
not getting all the names
correct or missing
someone, I will list their
names in the November
newsletter.



As for the Seniors!
Receiving a lg. print
Bible or a Study
Guide are:
Lenise Postel, Barb
Overlie, Mary and
Arlo (hiding) Feder,
Charlie Hakes, Elsie
Pace, John Hoeft &
Caroline Antoine

We want Your old Instruments!

It's that magical time of year where students
are trying out instruments for the first time
and we want your help! Do you have an
instrument from your high school days lying
around? Did your kid try band and then go off
to college? Consider donating your gently
used instrument to our growing band
program!

Contact: Mr. Thomas Prah
Director of Bands

thomasprahl@isd837.org

Instruments Needed:

Flute
Clarinet
Alto Sax
Tenor Sax
Trumpet
French Horn
Trombone
Baritone
Tuba
Bell Kit





A Baptism was held at Faith on Sunday, September 20th for Eloise Kae Friesen. She is the daughter of Tyler and Natalie Friesen and her sponsors are Taylor Tierney and Eryn Friesen.



Wellspring FIA
Exercise Program for People 60+ Years
Tuesday and Thursday at 10:00 AM
Faith Lutheran Church Social Hall

** You are STILL welcome to join us!!! **

These exercises are specifically geared to older adults and all can be done while sitting in a chair or standing by a chair. They are FREE and provided by WELLSRING.



*** CALL 507-375-1276 TO REGISTER! ***

**DON'T BE A LADY
 BE A LEGEND!**

TEAM TESS

SHE BEAT CANCER

♥ NOW LET'S HELP HER GET BACK ON HER FEET

Tess has fought the hardest battle of her life—and she WON.
 Fundraising to help with lost wages and medical bills.

LIVE MUSIC | **SILENT AUCTION** | **RAFFLE** | **PORK SANDWICH MEAL**
FREE WILL DONATION

DATE: Saturday, October 24th | **TIME:** 3:00 PM – 8:00 PM | **LOCATION:** Rock Street Tavern, Springfield, MN

Saturday, October 24
3:00-8:00 PM
Rock Street Tavern
Springfield, MN



Friday, October 30th
4:30 - 6:00 PM
Faith Lutheran Church
306 Abbot Ave SW, Madelia
 There will be many trunks to see, games to play, treats to get and then you can venture inside the church for a **FREE** supper
 Don't forget to hit Living Meadows at Luther-Madelia from 3:30-5:00 PM
*** * *HAPPY HALLOWEEN* * ***

WELLSRING
Annual Fundraiser
Pizza Hot Dish Luncheon
Dine In, To Go or Delivery Available
Tuesday, October 6
Serving 11:00 AM-1:00 PM
St. James Fraternal Order of Eagles
701 1st St S, St. James, MN
FREE WILL DONATION
Please call by Monday Oct. 6 for delivery
507-375-1276

Food Shelf Collections
Faith
 On-going Food Shelf Drive. Place items in the shopping cart in the entryway.
Lake Hanska
 On-going Food Shelf Drive continues. Place items or cash in the designated box or can in the Narthex.

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

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
<u>October</u> Breast Cancer Awareness Month National Domestic Awareness Month Clergy Appreciation Month American Cheese Month Seafood Month Cookie Month National Pizza Month National Popcorn Poppin' Month Adopt a Shelter Dog Month Eat Country Ham Month Vegetarian Month American Pharmacist Month Sarcastic Month				1 10:00 AM Chair Yoga (F)	2 As a Sabbath practice-Ralph is taking this day off	3 8:30 AM Men's Morning Out
4 Communion 9:00 AM Faith 10:30 AM Lake Hanska 19 th Sunday after Pentecost	5	6 10:00 AM Chair Yoga (F) 11:00 AM-1:00 PM WELLSRING Annual Fundraiser-Pizza Hot Dish Luncheon-St. James Eagles Club 11:15 AM Pray without Ceasing/Living Meadows	7 9:00 AM Quilting at Lake Hanska 3:15-5:00 PM J.A.M. at Faith 6:00-7:30 PM Confirmation (F)	8 10:00 AM Chair Yoga (F) 6:30 PM Faith Council	9 As a Sabbath practice-Ralph is taking this day off	10 10:00 AM Zion (LC) Tour of Tables
11 Communion New Member Sunday Pastor Appreciation Day 9:00 AM Faith 10:30 AM Lake Hanska 20 th Sunday after Pentecost	12 20 th Sunday after Pentecost	13 10:00 AM Chair Yoga (F) 11:15 AM Pray without Ceasing/Living Meadows 	14 NO J.A.M. NO Confirmation	15 10:00 AM Chair Yoga (F) Education MN Days	16 As a Sabbath practice-Ralph is taking this day off	17 8:30 AM Men's Morning Out
18 9:00 AM Faith 10:30 AM Lake Hanska 21 st Sunday after Pentecost	19 9:00 AM Ruth Bible Study	20 10:00 AM Chair Yoga (F) 11:15 AM Pray without Ceasing/Living Meadows	21 3:15-5:00 PM J.A.M. at Faith 6:00-7:30 PM Confirmation (F)	22 9:00-Noon Watonwan River Conference at Faith	23 As a Sabbath practice-Ralph is taking this day off	24
25 Children's Time 9:00 AM Faith Baptism (F) 10:30 AM Lake Hanska Reformation Sunday	26	27 10:00 AM Chair Yoga (F) 11:15 AM Pray without Ceasing/Living Meadows	28 3:15-5:00 PM J.A.M. at Faith 3:30-5:30 PM Madelia Food Shelf Open House 6:00-7:30 PM Confirmation (F)	29 10:00 AM Chair Yoga (F)	30 As a Sabbath practice-Ralph is taking this day off 4:00-6:30 PM Trunk or Treat (F) Meal provided	31 8:30 AM Men's Morning Out

Faith Lutheran Church

306 Abbot Ave SW ~ Madelia, MN 56062

Phone: 507-642-8500

Facebook.com/Faith Lutheran Madelia

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

Synod Authorized Minister Ralph Flitter

Cell Phone: 507-317-4204 E-mail: flitteralph@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

~ October ~

Joyce's Office hours: Every afternoon except Friday. Please email the office with any information.
For your church needs or assistance, 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: **faithofficemadelia@gmail.com** or Ralph: **flitteralph@gmail.com**

~ OCTOBER ~

Worship Schedule

9:00 AM @ Faith
10:30 AM @ Lake Hanska

Faith Office Phone: 507-642-8500
Lake Hanska Phone: 507-439-6948
Faith Email: **faithofficemadelia@gmail.com**
Ralph Flitter Email: **flitteralph@gmail.com**



Communion is the 1st & 2nd Sunday of each month, unless otherwise noted