

FAITH Lutheran Church
Offering Christ-Centered Preschool and Childcare
4241 Williamson Road
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Bridgeport, MI 48722

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FOCUS ON FAITH
July 2026



MISSION STATEMENT: In responding to God's great love to us in Christ Jesus, FAITH Lutheran Church dedicates itself to the continual growth of Christ's Church in Bridgeport, in all of Michigan and the United States of America, and into all of the world through....

- **Fellowshipping around the Gospel (Acts 2:42)**
- **Administering the Means of Grace (1 Cor. 4:1)**
- **Investing our time and talents (2 Cor. 9:7, 8)**
- **Teaching the Christian FAITH (2 Tim. 2:2)**
- **Helping those in need (Matt. 25:40)**

Staff:

Rev. Timothy Behnke, *Pastor*, 989-401-8537

E-mail: heiditim@netzero.com

Amber Gnatkowski *Preschool and Childcare Director*, 989-777-2702

Barb Swanson, *Secretary*, 989-777-2600

Sandy Davis. *Treasurer*, 989-777-2600

Freedom.

This July 4th, we are celebrating 250 years as an independent nation. We are also celebrating our freedom. Now freedom is very important to us not only as Americans, but also as Christians because Christ set us free from sin, death and Satan. The question is: how will we use that freedom, both as Christians and Americans?

Martin Luther has some wisdom here. He wrote that “A Christian is the most free lord of all, subject to none. A Christian is the most dutiful servant of all, and subject to everyone.” Christ set us free from everything including the law, but he did not set us free to do whatever we want. He set us free to be the people of God. He set us free to love him and others. That is why the Christian is also the servant to all. We are free to serve others and to put their needs first. We are free to serve others as Christ served us first. In other words, we are free to live as God intended us to live from the very beginning. This is not easy, but it is what we are called to do as followers of Christ.

This applies to us as Americans also. We are not free to do whatever we want, but we are free to be good citizens. We are free to exercise our rights, but are not free to infringe on the rights of others. Most importantly, we are free to live as children of God and to serve and love one another. May God enable us to do this noble task.

--To God be the glory--

Pastor Tim Behnke



BIRTHDAYS

- 1 *Remington Herzberg
- 2 *Aiden Gubbins; Roger Lisee
- 4 Rick Webb, Betty Moggo
- 5 Craig Klein
- 10 Carol Fischer, Dean Notter
- 14 Alvin Wioskowski
- 15 Ben Klein
- 17 Deb Popp
- 19 Eric Davis
- 22 Brandon Britton
- 23 James Thieme, Olivia Spencer
- 27 Joan Wolf, *Lainey Beal
- 31 Diane Gubbins, William Stroup

ANNIVERSARIES

- 6 Joseph & Mary Sylvester
- 17 Mike & Carol Dickhausen
- 21 Kyle & Shelby Herzberg
- 22 Wayne & Patti Baughman
- 23 Bill & Tracey Niedrich

*Children

If we have missed anyone or made an error, please call the Church Office at 777-2600. Thank You!

Serving at FAITH in July

Altar Guild: Louise Davis, Sandy Davis

Kidz' Word:

July 5	Louise Davis
July 12	Doug Williams
July 19	Pastor Behnke
July 26	Archie Swanson

Ushers:

July 5	Group 4
July 12	Group 4
July 19	Group 1
July 26	Group 1

Lector:

July 5	Rachel Szaroletta
July 12	Jean Lisee
July 19	Laurie Lisk
July 26	Mindy Hoffmann

Greeters:

July 5	Louise Davis, Barbara Pierce
July 12	Diane Gubbins, Dearaine Gubbins
July 19	Steve & Dorothy Dedyne, Shirley Lehman
July 26	Joan Wolf, Heidi Behnke

Elders: July 5	Mike Hastedt
July 19	Steve Dedyne

Food Distribution: The next date for our Food Distribution is July 11. Please see Ed Gubbins if you have any questions.

Sack Lunches. We continue to provide Sack Lunches to the rescue mission every month. We do put together the sack lunches with bags, chips, applesauce, and granola bars before drop off. All of your donations are greatly appreciated. If you would like to donate please see Kathy Harris or Terri Buchinger.

Funds you can give toward are: Altar Fund, Outdoor Fund (landscaping and repairs), Rupp Scholarship Fund (Helps college students going into church work), Social Ministry (Helps people with consumers, rent, water, etc.), Flower Fund (Altar Flowers), Rescue Mission (monthly sack lunches), Food Distribution (monthly Food Distribution). If you would like to donate toward any of the funds place your check in the offering plate and mark which fund you would like it to go toward.

Women of Faith: We are beginning to work on our 2026-27 directory and we need your input. Please let the church office know if your address, phone number or email has changed.

Thank you: A big thank you to all of you who participated in our Pentecost celebration. Red geraniums adorned our sanctuary. The pews were filled with lots of red outfitted members. Thank you again for your support.

Thank you for supporting our Rummage sale. We can't tell you how much we appreciated the donations, the volunteers who helped with setup, with the sale and with cleanup, and of course the buyers. *Women of Faith*



Please join us on Friday, July 17th at 6:30 p.m. for a

CHURCH FISH FRY



We would like to thank everyone who volunteers to help in so many ways around Faith.

Please sign up if you plan on attending at the counter in the Narthex.



FAITH Lutheran Church

Sunday, September 13th

1-3:00 p.m.

Please come and join us for our family carnival!

Free for all

Fun and Fellowship with:

*games *prizes *bounce house
*dunk tank *face painting
Hot dogs and other fun carnival food
and treats



**Invite your friends, family
and neighbors!**

Please sign up to help on the sheet on the counter in the Narthex.