

North Valley Lutheran Church  
Member of First Faith Valley Lutheran Parish

1988 220th Avenue  
Centuria WI 54824  
715-825-3559  
office@nvlch.org  
www.nvlch.org



**North Valley Message**  
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**First Faith Valley Lutheran Parish Ministry Corner**  
**June, 2023**

**"United in Christ to strengthen our Ministries to adapt, grow and serve"**

"From Worry to Wonder"

Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

From "The Sermon on the Mount" Matthew 6:34 *New Revised Standard Version Updated Edition*

<sup>34</sup> **"So do not worry about tomorrow, for tomorrow will bring worries of its own. Today's trouble is enough for today.**

This text is the basis for "From Worry to Wonder" the Synod Ministry theme for this year.

Remember back a few of months ago we all were **worried** that the snow was not going to stop or that the snow would not go away, and the ground would warm up in time to plant crops and gardens to get a good yield. And it did stop and the fruit trees did bloom a little later than usual, the oats/wheat came up, and the corn and beans came up. Our **worry** was for not. And as Jeanne and I put in our garden we found that the soil was warm but also quite dry considering all the snow we and rain we had this past winter. I said the rain will come no need to **worry**. Well, the rain has not been much if any. I am watching the crops suffer pastures are drying out, first crop hay looks to be pretty good but second crop might not be there. While we can water our small gardens it comes at a cost. For our farmers while some have irrigations for some of their fields that is a very small portion of what they have planted. Am I **worried?** Of course I am **worried** because the crop and then food prices will be affected.

We are a people of **FAITH** and the Holy Spirit is still with us today guiding us directing us as Congregations and a Parish in the way we should be going. Yes, as I said last months we are human and we **worry** about when will we have a Called Pastor guiding us on this journey, how will we know what the future holds? I am writing this after our Congregation Council met at First. While we were looking to the future with a little bit of **worry**, we were excited about what we have accomplished as a Congregation and Parish without a Called Pastor and decided that as Jesus said <sup>34</sup> **"So do not worry about tomorrow, for tomorrow will bring worries of its own. Today's trouble is enough for today.**

That does not mean we don't make plans because you always need a plan. It means we don't get ahead of ourselves or God. We need to do this or the **worry** will eat us up. Mental Health professionals tell us this all the time. **Worry** leads to both physical and mental health issues. It is time we take to heart the saying "Let go and let God" God will bring the **Wonder**. Just remember it's all in **His** time not ours!

This past month we had Dana Paulsen a second year seminary student join our Worship Team. Dana is a great addition to our Team. We are working with her to see when her class and personal schedule will bring her back. Here is her Bio; my name is Dana Paulsen. I was born and raised in Luck, WI. I attended UWRF for music education and taught at Unity school for 25 years. I am a mother of 3 teenagers and currently finishing my 2nd year of seminary at Luther in Saint Paul MN. I enjoy nature, traveling, laughter and music. I am passionate about feeding the hungry and mental health.

We are in the season of Pentecost for the next 20 weeks the Parament color is Green for Growing.

We continue to celebrate what your Congregations have done so far while we have been waiting for a Candidate. Please continue pray for wisdom and guidance for your Worship Team and Congregation Councils and the Parish Council as we work to strengthen and improve the Ministry of the First Faith Lutheran Parish and Call a Pastor to Shepherd us on this **Faith Journey**.

**Worship Times for July –August- September.**

**8am First, 9:30am North Valley and 11am Faith**

**Worship Schedule**

8:00am Worship All Sundays in June at North Valley.

Video Messages can be found on our Facebook page

**Offerings** can be mailed to the office or given online at nvlch.org.

You can also set up giving through your automatic bill pay.

**Staff**

Church Email: [office@nvlch.org](mailto:office@nvlch.org)

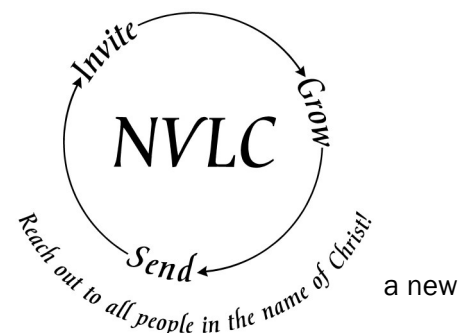
Admin. Asst.: Laurene Edge

9:00am-4:00pm Tuesdays

Please notify the church office if you have address or phone number changes.

**Newsletter articles** are due the 3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday of each month.

**Bulletin announcements** are due Tuesdays before 11:00am.



**Staff & Church Council**

Interim Pastor	Neal Weltzin
Admin. Asst.	Laurene Edge
Accompanist	Carol Medchill
Parish Nurse	Suzanne Grill
Custodian	Kristie Kuenkel
President	Kristie Wagner
Vice President	Charlie Christen-
Secretary	Bev Hopkins
Treasurer	Tom Tellijohn
Other Council Members	Jan Kruse Jeff Kruse Joey Nelson
W/ELCA Reps.	Myrna Anderson Donna Berg Suzanne Grill

Youth Rep.

banks

a new

As the First Council looked at the Wednesdays in July it was decided to do just one Campfire Worship on Wednesday July 12, 2023 at 6:30pm. We will provide the food. Please join us for food and fellowship at First in Bernholt Park across the street from the Church.

Our next **Parish Council Meeting** is Wednesday July 12, 2023 7pm at First with Campfire Worship at 6:30pm

If you are in need of Pastoral support feel free to contact  
 Pastor Tamra Harder, 715-501-3681  
 For other matters call the Church Office 715-648-5323  
 You can also contact me as well 715-483-3715(H) 715-557-0382(C)

Always remembering that it is **“God’s Work-Our Hands”** to bring and tell of the **HOPE** in Jesus Christ showing while **“Words Matter-Actions Matter More”**.

Yours in Our Eternal **Hope**, Jesus Christ,  
 Steve Jensen, Pres. FFVLP

**“A Light to my Path”**

July’s theme **“A Light to my Path”** is to remind us that as we are on our Faith and Life Journey, God is our **light** for this journey.

This month’s theme comes from Psalm 119:105 **“Your word is a lamp to my feet and a light to my path.”** In Exodus when God lead the Israelites out of Egypt the land of bondage “the Lord went before them by day as a pillar of a cloud, to lead the way; and by night in a pillar of fire, to give them light: to go by day and night.” In John 8:12 Jesus said **“I am the Light of the world”**. God is light and as believers in Christ and his finished work of the cross we are called to be salt and light to the world. Jesus said in Matthew 5:13-16 <sup>13</sup> *“You are the salt of the earth, but if salt has lost its taste, how can its saltiness be restored? It is no longer good for anything but is thrown out and trampled underfoot.*

<sup>14</sup> *“You are the light of the world. A city built on a hill cannot be hid. <sup>15</sup> People do not light a lamp and put it under the bushel basket; rather, they put it on the lampstand, and it gives light to all in the house. <sup>16</sup> In the same way, let your light shine before others, so that they may see your good works and give glory to your Father in heaven. NRSV*

As we continue our **Mission and Journey** as Congregations and a members the First Faith Lutheran Parish to call a new Pastor, we each need the **Light of the Lord** to show us the way **Stewards** of what God has given us (time, talents, and/or money) in our own lives and relationships as well as the life and relationship of our Congregation and Parish. We need to ask ourselves, Am I/are we walking daily as **“Children of Light”**? Paul tells us [in Ephesians 5:8-9](#) <sup>8</sup> *for once you were darkness, but now in the Lord you are light. Walk as children of light, <sup>9</sup> for the fruit of the light<sup>cl</sup> is found in all that is good and right and true. NRSV* What am I being shown by God’s light, the Holy Sprit to do as part of this **Mission and Journey** and beyond? We are **ALL** to work together in **MISSION** telling the World about God’s Love and showing his Light towards all people through his son Jesus.

The color for the 20 weeks of the season of Pentecost is green for growth. The book of Acts shows us how our **MISSION** started when Jesus gave us the great **COMMISSION** before ascending to the Father in Acts 1:8 *But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you; and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem, in all Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth.*’. Jesus is telling us that our **MISSION/WITNESS** starts at home and then grows out from there. So, we need to ask ourselves, **how am I growing in MISSION during this time and am I being a good Steward of all that God has provided me?** We are growing because we now have Teams/Committees that are making use of our individual talents/gifts to do things were done for us. We all are finding out we can do these things and are growing in **MISSION** and **Stewardship** as we do them it is **“God’s Work, Our Hands”**.

Always remembering that it is **“God’s Work-Our Hands”** to bring and tell of the **HOPE** in Jesus Christ showing while **“Words Matter-Actions Matter More”**.

Yours in Our Eternal **Hope**, Jesus Christ,  
 Steve Jensen

# July 2023

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
						1
2 8:00 First 9:30 North Valley 11:00 Faith 9:15-10:30 Pancake Breakfast at Faith	3	4  Office closed	5 9am Quilting <b>NO</b> Choir Practice North Valley	6 Office open	7	8
9 8:00 First 9:30 North Valley 11:00 Faith	10	11	12 9am Quilting NV Choir singing at Sophie’s Manor 6:15 Campfire Worship at First 7pm Parish Council Meeting at First	13	14	15 5pm worship at Faith followed by BBQ & Potluck
16 8:00 First 9:30 North Valley No service at Faith	17 Newsletter deadline	18 6:30 Council Mtg NV	19 9am Quilting 1pm Parish Choir Practice North Valley	20	21	22
23 8:00 First 9:30 North Valley 11:00 Faith	24	25	26 9am Quilting 1pm Parish Choir Practice North Valley	27	28	29
30 9:30 North Valley Combined service with First and Faith	31					

## BIRTHDAYS

Eibs, Carly	07/01/2004
Sandberg, Baze	07/06/2020
Johnson, Bruce	07/08/1972
Olson, Lexis	07/09/2004
Gehl, Henry	07/09/2019
Kruse, Chuck	07/12/1942
Anderson, Don	07/12/1950
Bengtson, Sadie	07/13/1991
McIntyre, Angie	07/14/1982
Kruse, Walter	07/16/2020
Kletschka, Nash	07/17/2013
Heilig, Brady	07/17/2006
Wagner, Joyce	07/17/1948
Woltz, Cody	07/18/1985
Hacker, Brad	07/19/1959
Baerg, Jade	07/19/1994
Cox, Julia	07/22/2001
Gallatin, Millie	07/23/2019
Cox, Hunter	07/26/2004

## BAPTISMAL ANNIVERSARY

07/06/1947	Bev Hopkins
07/09/2006	Carter Collins
07/10/1947	Joey Nelson
07/15/1967	Anne Fletcher
07/17/2011	Anistyn Cox
07/18/2020	Bennett Frank
07/18/2020	Paisley Koehler
07/20/2014	Pearl Melin
07/26/2020	Ava Schmidt-Meyer
07/30/1995	Jade Baerg

## WEDDING ANNIVERSARIES

07/20/2014 Michael & Kaylynn Buss



Cameron Collins, Randall Krueger, Teresa Studie, Dana Tellijohn, Jim Dishon (Suzanne Grill's son), Kevin Jensen (Heidi Simmerman's brother)

**Continued Healing:** Rowan Anderson (baby daughter of Heather Johnson & Tyler Anderson), Sharon Johnson, Matt Kludt, Carolyn Nelson, Amelia McKinney

**Military:** Tyler Brooks (Marine Corps)

**Send words of encouragement:**

Sgt. Tyler Brooks  
1846 Darby Dr E5  
Florence AL 35630

**Nursing Home/Assisted Living/Homebound:**

Home — Teddy Ditlefsen, Athelene Simon



Donna Berg	715-553-2038
Myrna Anderson	715-554-7049
Gwen Morrissette	715-781-3047
Anita Johnson	715-554-3785
Suzanne Grill	612-598-8197
Bette Tooley	701-436-6010
Joey Nelson	715 553-0262

If you have any prayer requests, please contact anyone on the list, giving them as little or as much information as you wish. All info will be treated with respect and kept confidential.

## NEWSLETTER SUBMISSION DEADLINE

Newsletter deadline for August is no later than Monday, Junly17th. Anything submitted after that may have to wait for the following month edition.

Thank you, Laurene

## North Valley Vision Statements and Goals

### Quantifiable, Relevant, Measurable, Achievable

#### Acceptance and Community:

- North Valley will seek to love and serve others unconditionally; reaching out to those entering the church and to the community at large.
- Develop a welcoming committee to greet church attendees. (Our logo is welcoming and our church is open)
- Actively participate in two community events per year (ie. Milltown Fishermen's, maybe a Christmas event)
- Publicize and invite the community to a church sponsored event twice a year.
- Open forum on relevant resolutions of the synod on racism and diversity with an understanding to be open.
- Coffee Hour, nothing political, not about the news but personal sharing. Limit the time, Prepare the group, Announce ahead of time

#### Faith:

- North Valley will proclaim the good news of Jesus Christ through traditional and contemporary services as well as providing options for learning/worshiping beyond the Sunday service.
- Community publicized Pop-up services, Wednesday alternative worship, Kiddo bags for education, Contemporary music bring to service. Worship Committee to continue planning.

#### Willingness/Teamwork:

- As part of the body of Christ, North Valley will remain open and flexible to new ideas and approaches; encouraging all to participate in programs, training and services.
- Make a goal to contact and incorporate one new person in any event before we start planning. Recruit kids to bring their parents along.

#### Generosity:

- As a country church in rural Wisconsin, North Valley will support the community and global missions with financial means and donations of time, talent and supplies.
- Look for a project to draw the community into a relationship, something they need and we can help with.



Are you getting credited for your church donations? If you give cash, please put it in any envelope with your name on, so you get credit for your donation!

## OUR FINANCIAL REPORT MAY 2023

Beginning Balance	\$21,300.65
Income for May,	6,608.03
Expenses for May	9,061.81
Ending Balance:	\$18,846.87 —Tom Tellijohn, Treasurer

To provide a broader picture of church finances, we are now reporting monthly beginning and ending balances .





**MISSION AND SOCIAL ACTION – JULY 2023**

The missionaries we are now sponsoring are Patrick and Jacqueline Bencke in Japan. The cost is \$20 per Sunday. See sign-up sheet. Please be sure to label your donation as a “missionary gift” which may be left in the offering plate. Thank you for your consideration of sponsoring our missionary in Japan.

**JUNE**

- 06-04 – Tricia Olson
- 06-11 – Tricia Olson
- 06-18 – Tricia Olson
- 06-25 – Tricia Olson

**JULY**

- 07-02 – Paul & Suzanne Grill
- 07-09 – Paul & Suzanne Grill
- 07-16 – Paul & Suzanne Grill
- 07-23 – Paul & Suzanne Grill
- 07-30 – Paul & Suzanne Grill

**PLEASE SIGN UP TO SPONSOR OUR MISSIONARIES.**

**Loaves and Fishes Food Shelf:** In May, 34 households were served – 40 adults and 11 children. 82.75 volunteer hours. Donations: 485.5#, Money \$625.00; Weight of food going out: 1,721#; Waynes gift cards given: \$340.00.

Items needed: bread, eggs, milk, cheese, fresh vegetables (carrots, potatoes), fresh fruit (apples, oranges), canned meat, dish soap, lotion, toothpaste, toothbrushes, and paper towels.

The Loaves and Fishes Food Shelf is looking for a coordinator. Please talk to people about that. We have an Advisory Council from Luck Lutheran helping the food shelf continue. Also Gena Bugno and Pam Girtz are currently acting as co-coordinators. We can help train a coordinator.

We are now ordering food from St. Croix Valley Food Bank out of Hudson. They also bring our TEFAP food which comes from the government. We still order from Wayne’s in Luck and Frederic Grocery store. We also welcome donations from anyone. We are trying to provide some fresh produce also, so please announce that if people have some extra homegrown items they can be donated on Tuesday and Thursday during the hours of 11:00 am -1:00 pm at 300 W 3<sup>rd</sup> Ave in Luck. Please also let people know that if they are in need of food and live in the Unity or Luck School district, they can come to our food shelf. The income limit has been raised to \$29,000 a year.

Thanks. Pam Girtz

**JULY WORSHIP SCHEDULE**

**8:00AM FIRST LUTHERAN CUSHING**

**9:30AM NORTH VALLEY**

**11:00AM FAITH LUTHERAN BALSAM LAKE**

Quarter Bowl Offering for July, August and September for Lutheran World Relief Kits

The following is a list of items that are needed for each kit. Contact Myrna Anderson if you have questions

**School Kits.**

4 70-sheet notebooks of wide or college ruled paper approx. 8½ X 10½” NO LOOSE LEAF PAPER; 1 30-centimeter ruler, or a ruler with centimeters on 1 side and inches on the other; 1 pencil sharpener; 1 blunt scissors (safety scissors with embedded steel blades work well); 5 new unsharpened #2 lead pencils with erasers; 5 black or blue ball point pens (no gel ink); 1 box of 16 or 24 crayons; 1 2½” eraser; and 1 sturdy drawstring backpack-style cloth bag 14 X 17 with shoulder straps . **We have purchased backpacks – waiting to be filled!**

**Baby Care Kits** *Sizes up to 24 months - Gently used and clean items can be substituted for new ones.*

2 lightweight cotton t-shirts; 2 gowns or sleepers without feet; 2 receiving blankets up to 52” square; 4 cloth flat fold diapers; 1 jacket, sweater, or infant sweatshirt with a hood, or include a baby cap; 2 pair baby socks; 1 dark colored hand towel; 2 bath size (4-5 oz) bars gentle soap in original wrapping; and 2 diaper pins

**Personal Care Kits**

1 light-weight dark bath towel – between (minimum of 20”X40” to maximum of 52”X27”); 2 bath size (4-5 oz) bar soap, in original wrapping; 1 adult toothbrush in orig. packing or in sealed envelope; 1 sturdy comb; and 1 metal nail clippers (attached file optional)

**Fabric Kits**

2 pieces of cotton or cotton-blend fabric (no knits 100% polyester); fabric should have no stains or holes and be cut into a piece measuring:  
 2 ¼ yards of 60” wide fabric; or 3 yards of 44" wide fabric; or 4 yards of 36" wide fabric  
 2 spools of neutral colored general-purpose thread 250 - 300yds

**Soap** – any new bars of any brand soap in original wrapper – bath size (4-5oz) preferred.

**All donations are appreciated and can be left in donation baskets in fireside room. Cash donations will be used to purchase items needed to finish the kits. Thank you.**

**LOCAL EVENTS/FESTIVALS**

**EVERY FRIDAY: Farmer’s Market at Lady of the Lakes Catholic Church lot, Balsam Lake 3p-5p**

**EVERY SATURDAY: Farmer’s Market at St Croix Falls Library 10a-1pm**

**June 30th-July 2nd: Freedom Fest in Balsam Lake (fireworks at 9:30pm on 3rd)**

**July 1st at 9am: Annual Car Show at Deer Lake Winery**

**July 2<sup>nd</sup>: Fireworks at 9:45pm on Lake Wapogasset & Bear Trap**

**July 8-9: Centuria Memory Days**

**July 14th-16th: Wannigan Days in St Croix Falls/Taylor’s Falls**