



Faith Lutheran Church
2116 Mineral Point Avenue
Janesville, WI 53548
RETURN SERVICE RE-

FAITH⁵ AT FAITH

2025-2026

YOUR GUIDE TO
EDUCATIONAL EVENTS AND
PROGRAMS AT FAITH
LUTHERAN CHURCH

*“People of God, empowered
by Word and Sacrament,
reaching out in Love”*

Open to Learn More!

A LETTER FROM THE EDUCATION COMMITTEE

Dear Members of Faith,

The Education Committee at Faith is excited to announce their plans for Cross-Generational education opportunities during 2025-2026. Our committee has worked diligently throughout the summer to revisit our mission, goals, and objectives for education for members of ALL ages in our Faith Family. We have decided to use the FAITH5 as the core for family and congregational activities. We will continue the current successful groups and activities while bringing new opportunities for learning, fellowship, and service.

This booklet should provide you with a general guide to opportunities during 2025-2026. We hope you take time to read through our goals and objectives so that you understand the purpose of what we are offering. We have tried to put dates on the calendar for specific events, but hope you realize opportunities might be updated or added monthly.

Our fall KICK-OFF will be SUNDAY, SEPT. 7th. Put this date on your calendar and look for details in the coming weeks!

SPECIAL EVENTS—2025-2026

SEPTEMBER 7—EDUCATION KICK-OFF

Come and find out what's in store for 2025-2026. Potluck!

OCTOBER 26-BIBLE BASH/REFORMATION SUNDAY

Order a new Bible or bring your favorite and enjoy some fun Bible activities. Of course, there will be food!

DECEMBER 7—ADVENT BY CANDLELIGHT

2nd Annual event for women and girls for food and fellowship as we prepare for Christmas.

FEBRUARY 8, 2026—SUPER BIBLE TRIVIA

Our yearly tailgate and trivia event on Super Bowl Sunday

APRIL 5, 2026—EASTER EGG HUNT AND BRUNCH

Easter fun and food for all ages!

MAY—(Date to be determined)

A festival of music and thanks as we celebrate volunteers and our musicians.

January 11—Youth will lead worship on this Sunday. Tina will coordinate a winter hike and yoga that afternoon.

February 8—Super Bible Trivia—This annual event is held after worship each year. Tom Hall will again coordinate and MC this event. Youth can form a team to participate.



March 8—Ann Pederson will coordinate soup preparation for Lenten Service on March 11. Youth and Parents can participate in the preparation of soup.

March 11—Youth and parents will set up and serve Lenten Meal.

April 5—Easter Sunday Easter Egg Hunt—Tina will again coordinate this event and include youth in assisting between services.



May 17—Final gathering. Maybe we should let kids decide what this might be? Pending.

Thanks to our committee members for their desire to provide opportunities for learning, fellowship, and service so that we may grow as “People of God, empowered by Word and Sacrament, Reaching out in love”!

Donna Herzfeldt, Education Chair

Committee Members

Brenda Alton, Jane Korsberg, Joshlyn Schlichter, Megan Cagney, Lisa Feragen, Drew Feragen, Pastor Collette



AN EDUCATION PLAN FOR FAITH LUTHERAN CHURCH

MISSION: Faith Lutheran will be a Cross-Generational Faith Family. We will help members of various ages grow in their faith in Jesus while building trusting relationships.

GOAL: Learn the Word of God so that it enables us to understand God's Story, the beauty of his grace, and His purpose in our lives.

Objective 1: Enhance the involvement of children in worship.

Objective 2: Recognizing that faith is an ongoing process, we will incorporate the principles of the FAITH5 (Share, Read, Talk, Pray, Bless) in church and family activities.

Objective 3: Form intentional relationships between members of various ages.

Objective 4: Provide at least 4 congregational events per year where we encourage involvement for members, families, friends, and community.

We are striving to conduct activities/events which encourage members of all ages to interact while continuing groups that meet the needs of members appropriate to their interests and times of life. We hope to incorporate the FAITH5 format into existing groups and offer families to grow in faith at home.



October 12–Tina will coordinate an afternoon at either Magnolia Bluff or Big Hill Park for hiking. Tina will invite Housing residents to join youth for a cross-generational outdoor afternoon.



October 26–There will be an opportunity for involvement in the Bible Bash. Donna Herzfeldt and Sue Green are planning this event in coordination with Reformation Sunday. There will be after church activities and a meal.



November 9–Tom Hall will coordinate this educational opportunity. This will be after worship and will involve refreshments.



December 7–Advent by Candlelight
This will be a Sunday evening activity, time to be determined. Donna will again host a table for girls and their moms.

December 21–The Pop-Up Christmas Pageant will be held during worship. Youth will have an opportunity to participate as readers or characters in this play.



YOUTH CALENDAR—2025-2026

(MIDDLE AND HIGH SCHOOL YOUTH)

Youth Leadership Team—Pastor Collette, Tom Hall, Ann Pederson, Tina Aldrich, Donna Herzfeldt

Purpose—To provide monthly activities for youth involving fellowship, study, and service. Monthly activities will be held on the second Sunday of each month as often as possible. Youth will also be able to choose other church activities for cross-generational involvement. All activities will use the FAITH5 format as a way to Share, Read, Talk, Pray, and Bless.



TBD—There will be an opportunity for Youth and parents to meet with leadership team to introduce calendar, etc. We will have Youth Time and Talent Sheets available.

September 7—Kick Off—There will be an opportunity for cross-generational involvement as we kick off fall programming. There will be an opportunity to go to Starbucks after for coffee and fellowship (Leadership Team and Youth).

September 14—Community Service Activity and Janesville Community Center. Pastor Collette will coordinate this with Missions Committee so that youth have a specific task for this service project.

WHAT IS FAITH5?

FAITH5 is an international ministry organization teaching five simple but profound steps that create regular caring conversations between parents, children and all generations.

The 5 steps in FAITH5 are meant to be used in families at home and in community as a faith family. It is meant to connect generations on how to be family.

It is a method to teach and practice active listening and empathy by relating God's Word to people's highs and lows. It is a way to model prayer and bless each other.

It is a way to utilize Biblical themes with all ages and stages of life.

Here are the five simple steps.

- SHARE your highs and lows
- READ a Bible verse or story
- TALK about how the Bible reading might relate to your highs and lows
- PRAY for one another's highs and lows
- BLESS one another

One of the objectives of our Education Committee is to train our congregation and families during the month of September to use and feel comfortable with its faith format both at home and in our congregational life.

If you want to learn more about FAITH5, check out faith5.org for videos and other resources.

***Please note! There will be opportunities after worship this fall to meet to practice FAITH5 in small groups. Plan to participate in these 15-20 minute sessions to learn the steps and interact with other members of our Faith Family!

SHARE. READ. TALK. PRAY. BLESS.

FRIENDSHIP TABLES

What are friendship tables?

Friendship tables are an opportunity to practice the FAITH5 while getting to know other members of all ages through food and fellowship.

What will you do?

Participants will commit to gather for coffee or a meal with a designated group of 6-8 congregation members four times from September-January. The first kick off will be on September 21. Groups will be designated on that day and will share a meal. Each group will choose dates for three more table gathers.

How will they look?

Friendship Tables will be cross-generational and an opportunity to get to know new people from the congregation.

When and where will this happen?

The kick-off will be September 21, 2025 at 4:00 pm at church. Each group will plan out their next meet-ups at that time. The suggested time for Friendship tables is 4:00 pm on Sundays at a place of your choice. However, each table can choose times that work for them.

How do I get involved?

Please fill out the interest form digitally or sign up on the clipboard.



BIBLE STUDIES

Pastor Collette misses leading bible study and several of our new members have expressed a desire to join a group that studies the bible together. So, we will start by having a few three-week study sessions on Tuesdays in September, October and November. There will be a morning and evening group for each series, and members can choose one or the other.

September-October Study: First Timothy
Our lectionary New Testament readings, almost all come from First and Second Timothy this fall. These books provide helpful guidance for teaching faith through the way we live, but they also contain some of the most harmful verses about women's leadership in the church. Come and learn how Lutheran's interpret difficult verses like this!

Tuesday mornings at 10:30 am on 9/23, 9/30, 10/7.
Tuesday evenings at 6:30 pm on 9/16, 23 and 30.

October-November Study: God of Covenants
This study is a journey through the Hebrew Scriptures from Genesis to Ezra, highlighting the covenants God makes with the chosen people.

Tuesday mornings at 10:30 am on 10/28, 11/4, 11/11.
Tuesday evenings at 6:30 pm on 10/21, 10/28, 11/4.

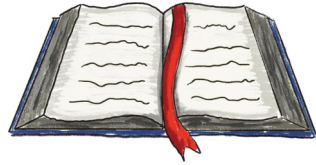


STUDY OPPORTUNITIES

BOOK STUDY

Our Book Study is a group that currently meets each Thursday at 10:30 am in Fellowship Hall. Group members suggest and choose a book for the group that inspires, teaches, and lends itself to discussion and insight. Members each purchase or download their own book. A new session will begin on September 4.

If you enjoy reading, discussing, and the fellowship of study, this is the group for you!



TAKING FAITH HOME

Taking Faith Home is a weekly guide for faith-filled conversations during the church year. It is based on the Revised Common Lectionary and offers weekly prayer, Bible verse, mealtime prayer, and blessing.

Whether you live alone or with a family, Taking Faith Home has something to offer you during the week to assist in your faith journey. Plan to pick up a copy each week!

MORE WAYS TO ENGAGE DURING WORSHIP

More opportunities will be offered for involvement of members of all ages. From participation during music with instruments to taking sermon notes for those who are interested, our activity center at the rear of the church is being revitalized for you. Keep your eye out for what's new each Sunday.

LYDIA CIRCLE

What is a Circle?

A Circle is a group of women who gather for a purpose. At Faith, the main purpose for our gathering is Bible Study. We also practice hospitality to all in our congregation by providing treats for Sunday Services, desserts for Lenten Soup Suppers, and providing service at events and monetary donations as needed.

At one time there were many functioning Circles at Faith Lutheran, each named after a woman of the Bible. They met in each other's homes for Bible Study and fellowship. Overtime, only the Lydia Circle remains. This circle is named after Lydia, a woman of the Bible, who sold purple cloth and was recorded as the first convert to Christianity in Europe and for her hospitality towards the Apostle Paul and his companions.

What do we study?

Lydia Circle currently uses *Gather* magazine for Women of the ELCA. It offers a mix of articles, theological reflections, devotions and stories of comfort and challenge that help readers grow in faith and engage in ministry and action. (There are copies of this magazine for you to look at in the office area)

When and where do we meet?

Lydia Circle currently meets in Fellowship Hall at 9:00 am on the third Tuesday of each month. We follow our meeting with lunch and fellowship at My Apartment.

Our 2025-2026 schedule begins September 16! No need to sign up ahead of time, just come to Fellowship Hall at 9:00 am for our next study!

MINISTRY WITH CHILDREN (BIRTH TO 5TH GRADE)

This fall, we are unveiling some new options for children and their families in worship and outside of it. All of these activities are meant to be cross-generational, so that Faith Lutheran Church really becomes a faith family for our youngest members. Like the rest of our educational offerings, our children's ministry focuses on building relationships across generations, learning to understand and love the story of God through Jesus, and explore how our faith applies to every day life.

CHILDREN IN WORSHIP

We continue to make the conscious choice as a congregation to make space for young and school age children in our worship. This includes a family-friendly space in our sanctuary called the Prayer Ground, which supports young children's active play during worship. This area includes toy and books, children's bulletins and children's bibles, as well as seasonal craft items. We are also hoping to help children participate more fully in worship this year with the following new offerings:

- Visual Schedules: assist kids in following along with worship, especially when they aren't strong enough readers to follow along with the adult bulletin.
- Restocked back of sanctuary worship supplies: we are adding new boxes with paper, coloring books, art supplies and more for children (and adults) who want to keep their hands busy during worship. Stop at the cabinet to the right inside our sanctuary entrance to see what's new
- Training for young worship leaders: kids and teens can read, usher, serve communion, share their talents and more during worship. We will have a **children's worship training after worship on September 21st** for kids who want regular jobs during worship.



PRACTICING FAITH5 AT HOME

Instead of once a month Sunday school like we did last year, we are offering an opportunity for kids and their families after worship EVERY WEEK, to gather with other congregation members and practice the Faith5. Most weeks, there will be a bonus, kid-friendly activity as part of this practice. Here's a sneak peek of what those activities will be for September and October:

September 7th: Teaching the Faith5 practices at tables over a congregational meal. Time to play on the Faith's Little Friends playground after lunch.

September 14th: This week the Faith5 practice will be integrated into a service project with Janesville Community Center. Kids will be working on a project that specifically supports kids in need in our community.

September 21st: As mentioned above, as part of Faith5, we will talk about ways we can serve the church and do a hands-on training for any kids who want to have regular worship jobs.

September 28th: For the READ part of the Faith5 this day, we will practice different ways of telling the story of the Rich Man and Lazarus by acting it out together.

October 5th: This week is SCIENCE week, where we explore small seeds of faith that can grow into something much bigger.

October 12th: This week is like early Thanksgiving, with the story of the 10 lepers healed by Jesus. As part of our Faith5, we will write thank you notes to Jesus and others in our lives who have helped us.

October 19th: This week is all about PERSISTENCE, so we will set goals for the week ahead and make plans to persist until we reach them!

October 26th: BIBLE BASH! This is an activity for the whole congregation, but we will have a whole bunch of children's bibles and faith at home activities to try out, with kits to be checked out by kids afterward.