

Voice of Faith

September 2016

Faith Lutheran Church, ELCA
1245 North Second
Seward, NE 68434

(402)643-6116
office@faithseward.org
Web site: www.faitseward.org

 Facebook: Faith Lutheran Church, Seward NE

Worship Sundays at 9:15 am
Sunday School 10:45am



Thank you Reese's for doing the sign



Mission Sunday



First Communion



Back to School Blessings

SEPTEMBER

	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fr	Sat
			1 7:00 pm Congo Life Meeting		2	
4 9:15am-Worship 10:45am - Adult Bible Study	5 Labor Day	6	7 1pm-Faithful Piecemakers 6:30pm-Faithful Choir 7:30pm - Sanctuary Task Force	8	9 6pm-Family Game and Pizza Night	10
11 9:15am-Worship 10:30am- Rally Sunday! "God's Work, Our Hands" Sunday	12	13 7pm-Church Council Meeting	14 1pm-Faithful Piecemakers 6:30pm-Faithful Choir	15	16 11:45am-Seward Local Lunch	17
Church Office - limited hours						
18 9:15am-Worship 10:45am-Sunday School for all ages	19	20 Newsletter Articles Due! WIC Clinic Day	21 1pm-Faithful Piecemakers 6:30pm-Faithful Choir 7pm Confirmation	22	23	24
Men's Walk To Emmaus						
25 9:15am-Worship 10:45am-Sunday School for all ages 10:30am - Mission Outreach Meeting	26	27	28 1pm-Faithful Piecemakers 6:30pm-Faithful Choir 7pm Confirmation	29	30	AA meets weekly at Faith Lutheran on Sundays at 7pm and Tuesdays at 7:30pm
Pulpit Supply - Ron W				Women's Walk to Emmaus		

Congregational Corner

September 11th is our Rally Sunday. This year Faith Lutheran Church is combining “God’s Work, Our Hands” Sunday with our Rally Sunday for Sunday School. Mission Outreach has been collecting school supplies in order to pack school kits for Lutheran World Relief. The Faithful Piecemakers are busy sewing the bags which hold the supplies. On Sunday Sept. 11, 2016, we invite all members of Faith Lutheran to gather after worship as we help the Sunday School children pack the bags with the school supplies and get them ready for shipping. We will also be tie-dyeing the LOVE>HATE t-shirts that Sunday and having a potluck lunch! **Hotdogs will be provided**, but please bring your favorite side or dessert to share.

There are lots of opportunities to help with our Sunday School program this year! Look at what we offer our youth and find a spot to fill in!!

Opening Leader - Music and prayer, devotions and offering... what a great opportunity to send the kids to their classrooms with an open heart!

Christmas Program Ideas - we know there are some great thoughts for a fun Christmas program out there... please share your talents with our youth!

Sunday School Teachers - can you share one Sunday morning a month with our youth? We have members willing to teach in a shared teaching situation... please join us!

Sunday School Substitutes - occasionally we need a fill-in teacher - let us know which age group you are most comfortable with!

Snacks for the Sunday School Area - a full tummy allows for better learning!

We would love to have you join us for Sunday School this year!! Beth Heyen, Kelli Klopfenstein or Janice Heath would be happy to visit with you about opportunities!



Thanks to the families of Faith who submitted their summer activity

schedules for your kids!

What a busy congregation we have!!

We look forward to posting those activities again next summer!

Hey Kids!!! Rally Sunday to kick off the Sunday School year is September 11th! We are combining our Rally Day with God's Work Our Hands Sunday so be prepared for lots of fun activities! Parents -

We will have Sunday School registration forms for you to fill out for each of your children and the kids will be able to meet with their teachers and the kids who will be in their class this year. We are excited to begin another Sunday School year!



What is SignUpGenius? – It’s an easy-to-use online tool that will help coordinate our monthly Saints in Service sign-up sheets.

Who is it for? – Anyone who would like to sign up to be a Greeter, Usher, Reader, Communion Assistant, or serve Refreshments.

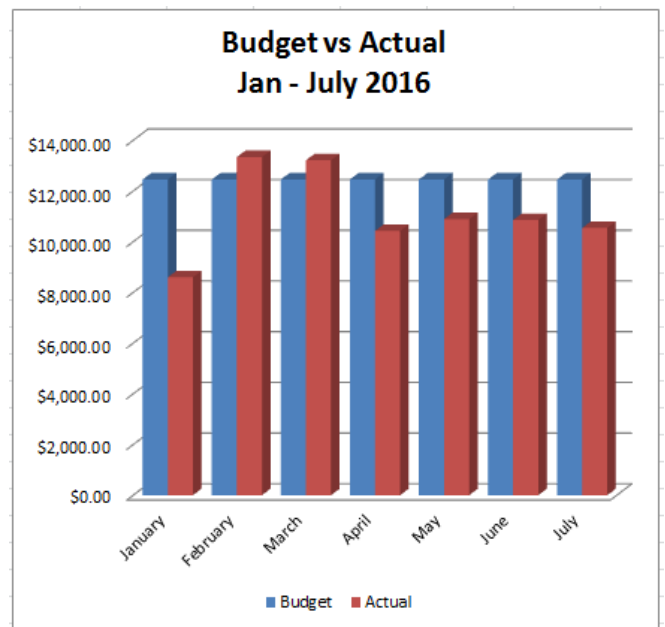
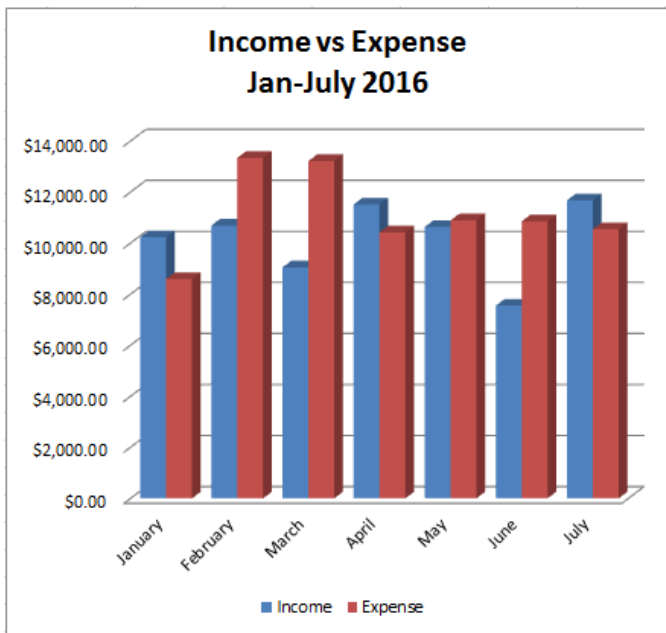
When and where can I sign up? – That’s the easy part! You can sign up anytime, anywhere right in the convenience of your home or office, on your computer or smartphone. Plus, you’ll be able to check your home calendar to see what day would work best for you to serve. Just click on the SignUpGenius link that Rachel has in our weekly email announcements and that will take you to the sign up page.

How do I sign up?

- 1 Scroll down the sign up page and locate the Sunday that would work for you. Decide what you want to volunteer for and click on the box. It will put a check mark in the box.
- 2 You will see a box at the bottom of the page that says “Submit and sign up.” Click that to take you to the next page.
- 3 At the top of the second page, it will remind you of the Saints in Service job you chose. You’ll see a sentence that says “I do not have a SignUpGenius account.” It is already marked for you.
- 4 Add your name and email in the boxes provided.
- 5 At the bottom of the screen, there are two boxes – “Sign up now” and “Cancel.” If you change your mind, click on the “Cancel” box before you click on the “Sign up now” box.
- 6 If you are satisfied with your choice, click on the box “Sign up now” and you are done! Your name and initials will show up on the first page by the job you chose.

We will still have the paper sign-up sheet in the narthex, if you prefer that method. Whatever way you chose, we want to thank you for your commitment to making our Sunday services run smoothly as you serve and honor our Lord. We really couldn’t do it without you!

From The Desk of The Treasurer:



Sharing God's Bounty-September

The Importance of Giving

It is not uncommon for church members to perceive in a negative way the encouragement from their church to give generously. The perception of some people is that the church is only interested in their money. Certainly, a generous giving congregation does provide the money needed by the church for its budget so the church should work hard to help people grow in their giving. *However, Scripture indicates that giving is as much for the sake of the giver as it is to support the needs of the church.* Pastors and church leaders understand that giving is an activity that God directs us to do. Jesus said, "Freely you have received, freely give" (Matthew 10:8). Paul wrote to the Church in Corinth about the collection for God's people, "On the first day of every week, each one of you should set aside a sum of money in keeping with his income. . ." (1 Corinthians 16:2).



Giving blesses both the giver and the recipient of the giving. The blessings to the recipients are obvious. *Not as obvious, but as important to understand, is that giving enriches the life of the giver.* Giving strengthens the relationship that we have with our Lord. Through our giving, we are reminded of God's ownership and how dependent we are on him. Giving demonstrates our faith and trust. We give as part of our worship. Giving allows us to be used by God in partnership with him.

We need to thank church leaders who encourage us to grow in our giving. Through our giving, we are expressing thanks to God for his goodness to us. We are also helping to extend God's kingdom through our church, providing for the needy, and enriching our own lives. As we grow spiritually and receive more of God's blessings, we will better understand and respond to the encouragement to increase our giving.

"No matter who you are or what you do ... no matter how meaningless you consider your life's work ... you can achieve greatness in the eyes of God by doing your work to the best of your ability and offering it up to him."



Love. Grow. Serve.

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BIBLE TEACHER AND BEST-SELLING AUTHOR - BETH MOORE - LIVING PROOF SIMULCAST
Saturday, September 17th - Seward United Methodist Church

Seward, NE September, 17th 2016 LifeWay Christian Resources is slated to simulcast well-known Bible teacher and best-selling author Beth Moore live from Chicago, IL on September 17th. Seward United Methodist Church is serving as a host location for the Seward County area.

"I am thankful that Beth presents herself as a real person. Not as someone who has 'arrived,'" says Pam McBride, an attendee from a *Living Proof Live* event in Knoxville. "Her words of truthfulness and boldness touch my life in so many ways."

The event, which is now in its 18th year, both challenges and encourages women to grow deeply in their faith. Join 150,000 women around the world for this live, global, Internet streaming event. The simulcast gives your church (we'll be meeting at Seward United Methodist Church) a front-row seat to one-

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We give thanks and praise for....

*Chris for serving as song leader on July 31st.

*Kailey's presentation about her mission trip to Detroit this summer.

*The Sunday forum led by Kenna, Levi, and Kathy about their mission trip to the Pine Ridge Indian Reservation. We thank Foster Friends for sending 56 boxes of clothing for the folks at Pine Ridge. This spring, our Lenten worship service offerings of \$1399.70 were given to Re-Member, a non-profit organization which improves the quality of reservation life at Pine Ridge. The offerings from our Lenten meals, which totaled \$877, helped defray travel costs for our three missionaries. Kathy also had a display about her mission trip to Akiachak, Alaska.

*The three quilts made by our Faithful Piecemakers for the quilt auction at Camp Carol Joy Holling. They sold for \$210, \$180 and \$60 for a total of \$450. Hillary and her mother, Wanda, also sent five quilts that sold for \$340, \$290, \$270, \$50 and \$40 for a total of \$990. Thank you, quilting ladies! All the proceeds will be used for the summer camping programs next year.

*The duet by Todd and Kurt on August 7th, singing "Amazing Love."

*Kathy, Paul, and Chris for leading the Adult Sunday School class on the movie "Still Alice."

*All the scraping and sanding done by Jim and Helen on the picnic tables in the picnic shelter. They removed at least five layers of paint! That took a lot of elbow grease – thanks so much!

*The First Communion Class: Edward, Joslyn, Justin, Hannah, Kylee, Bryson, Faye, and Liam. Thanks to John for showing the kids how he makes the communion wine.

*The Blessing of the Backpacks on August 21st. A reminder to all drivers – those backpacks have kids attached to them, so please drive carefully!

*Our mowing team: Cal, Doyle, Jim, John, and Janice. The lawn looks great this year, thanks to your work!

*Ron for all his work in the Prayer Garden – seeding and spraying, etc. Thank you!

*John and Sheila for cleaning the church for the past six years. We appreciate the good care you take of the church!

*Cindy for playing many hymns in July and August – 13 hymns for our "Christmas in July" service and 10 for the "Old Fashioned Hymn" sing on August 14. That's a lot of practicing. Good job, Cindy!

*All the shampoo and soaps donated to the Food Pantry in July. The total collection was 49 bars of soap, ten bottles of shampoo, 3 toothbrushes, 2 razors, and a giant bag of travel sized soaps. Thank you!

*All the faithful tithes and offerings given to the ministries of Faith Lutheran this summer. Thank you! May God grant us all faithful, loving and giving hearts!



Prayer Requests

Lois – Praise for recovering from lymphoma and pneumonia. Prayers for a quick return to an active life.

Spencer – Chemo resistant brain tumor (husband of April, Dad of Nolan & Drew)

Bonnie & Dan -Bonnie has cancer (brother & sister-in-law of Robin)

Jerry –ongoing health concerns (Father of Annette)

Charlie– Cancer (Maralee’s Cousin)

Mary Lou – End stage Cancer (Aunt of Cindy)

Heather – Cancer (Annette’s cousin)

Brock – Needs a kidney transplant (Kathy’s colleague’s son)

Suzanne –Cancer diagnosis (friend of Annette)

Marilyn – Cancer, undergoing chemo (co-worker of Sheila)

Marvin – ongoing health concerns (father of John)

T.J. – recent diagnosis of Brain Cancer (Milford Elem Principal)

Debra – fatigued. Prayers for a return to active life soon (Daughter of Joyce)

Julie – surgery and cancer treatments (Sister of Mike)

Greg –recovery from surgery (friend of the congregation)

Monica- cancer (friend of the congregation)

Don – hospitalized with pneumonia and other complications (friend of Eldeen)

Lauren – meningitis diagnosis (granddaughter of Marilyn – quilter)

Gene – on Hospice for cancer (friend of John and Sheila)

Pat – Prayers that her heart continues to stay in rhythm.

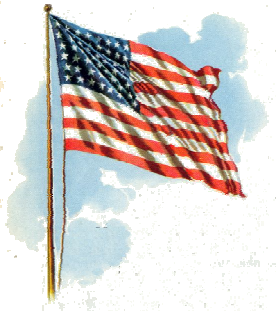
Eldeen – Recovery from surgery

Judy – recovery from stent surgery (friend of Chris and Rob)

† **Family of Judy Lewis** – (Friend of Peg)

† **Family of Pam Walker** – (friend of Loretta)

† **Family of Steve Shane Bussen** – (son of Deb, former member)



Serving in the Military:

Jeremy - Deployed to the Middle East.

Josh - Deployed to the Middle East.

Wayne – In Basic Training

Russell – Deployed to Afghanistan

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of-a-kind Bible teaching and life-changing worship.

“We are passionate to serve women who know Christ well but we’re also hoping they will join us shoulder-to-shoulder in the accelerated outreach effort that God is blazing in our souls,” Beth Moore wrote. “We are praying earnestly that women will come bringing the lost and the searching and the broken and the untaught.”

Moore has authored dozens of published Bible studies, books, and devotionals specifically for women for nearly two decades. Her latest LifeWay-published releases are *Audacious* (October 2015) and *Children of the Day* (May 2014). Moore’s organization, Living Proof Ministries, is based out of Houston.

The *Living Proof Simulcast* kicks off on Saturday, September 17th at 9:00 AM and ends at 4:30 PM. Tickets are \$15 (tax included) covering one full day of music and worship; a catered lunch and snacks; sessions led by Beth Moore; and opportunities for fellowship with other women from the Seward community. Women may purchase tickets by contacting Seward UMC by phone 402-643-4156 or in person by September 14.