

# FAITH In **Action**


WINTER 2023

Newsletter Of Faith Lutheran Church • Waconia Mn

Our Mission: To Learn, Serve And Share The Gospel Of Jesus Christ

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**WaconiaFaithLutheran.com**

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## ***Welcome!***

We are excited to have Pat Kamerud in the role of Congregational Connector. When Pat is not at the Welcome Desk to welcome you, she is in our office, working hard to connect members with volunteer opportunities, with small groups and events, and more! Be sure to say "Hi" to Pat next time you see here! Need help connecting? Let her know!

# FAITH LUTHERAN CHURCH

Inclusive Grace. Contagious Love.

# Pastors Pen

This is the season when ice houses begin to multiply on Lake Waconia. A village springs to life atop the frozen lake. Each day it grows.

To outside eyes this seems strange. Why would anyone leave the four walls of their homes in sub-zero temperatures to sit atop a giant ice cube staring down at a hole punched through the frozen floor? It sounds like a dare.

Yet to many who have made their home here, this is normal. This is a Minnesota lake community, so there is always someone casting a line into the lake—even if the water is frozen.

When I was recently in Israel, I was struck that Jesus made his home by a lake. In Matthew 4:13, when Jesus chose a home from which to begin his missionary enterprise, he chose a fishing village on the Sea of Galilee in a community of fishermen. It was here in this lakeside town, Capernaum, that Jesus began calling disciples.



I imagine this choice was intentional. Lakeside communities have a knack for getting out from behind the comfort of their walls even when challenges persist outside. The lake itself seems to beckon us, to call us, outside—to cast our nets (or lines) into the lake again and again.

Just as Jesus did at the shore of the Sea of Galilee, he does today along the shores of Lake Waconia. He calls to us, "Come and follow me." Get out from behind your four walls and go into the community casting widely the love and forgiveness of God in Jesus Christ.

At Faith's recent annual meeting we named increasing our engagement with the city of Waconia and surrounding communities as a goal for the next year. So, we will be working together to bravely get the word out about how God is at work at Faith. We will communicate to the community more clearly, inviting our neighbors into the gifts of our church. And we will find increased opportunities to serve, showing up as those called into service by Christ. This is something to which we're called—to which you're called.

After all, we're a lakeside congregation; it's time to get out of our comfort zone and head down to the lakeshore.

*Pastor Adam White*



## LOOKING AHEAD

### FEBRUARY

- 11 Communion Retreat
- 11 Film & Faith
- 12 Baptism Class
- 19 Communion Sunday
- 20 Monday Funday
- 22 Ash Wednesday
- 26 New Member Class

### MARCH

- 1 Lenten Soup Supper
- 1 New Member Class
- 5-11 IDS110 Spring Break
- 8 Lenten Soup Supper
- 12 New Member Recognition
- 15 Lenten Soup Supper
- 15 New Member Recognition
- 22 Lenten Soup Supper
- 24-25 9th Grade Retreat
- 29 Lenten Soup Supper

### APRIL

- 2 Palm Sunday
- 5 Lenten Soup Supper
- 6 Maundy Thursday
- 7 Good Friday
- 8 Easter Vigil
- 9 Easter
- 20 Baptism Class
- 22 Amazing Race
- 23 Confirmation

## Life Events

### Baptisms (Welcome!)

**Brady Johnson & Nora Johnson**, children of Angela Johnson.

**Ozzy Broll**, child of Brian Broll & Cassie Broll.

May God watch over and bless all of you as you are welcomed into His Church. Your heavenly Father has big plans for you!

Next Baptism Classes are February 12th, at 11:45am and April 20th, at 7:00pm. You can [register on our website under Life Events](#) or contact the church office to learn more/sign-up! 952-442-2101.

### Communion Retreat

We are offering a [Communion Retreat on February 11th from 10am-2pm](#). Caregivers, if you feel your child is ready [please sign-up](#). This class is an intro to Holy Communion designed for children and their caregivers, and is open to children in 1st-8th grade. Children who complete this class can then participate in Communion service on Sunday February 19th. If you have any questions, [please contact us](#).

### Confirmation

Traditionally confirmation takes place during the 9th grade year. Confirmation Sunday is planned for April 23, with services at noon & 2pm. For more information, please contact [Shane Marcus](#)

### Graduation

Graduation worship will be May 21, look for more information to come. Interested in renting the community room or Steiner Hall for your graduation party? Contact Mike in the office (952-442-2101).

### Anniversary/Milestones

Have a milestone celebration? Let us know!

### Weddings

Need information about getting married at Faith? Contact the church office.

### Funeral

The church shares in the grief of those who mourn the death of a loved one. To arrange a funeral, the church office at 952-442-2101.

### New Member/How to Join Faith

Faith is a congregation where all are welcome, and if you would or someone you know would like to become a member, [please sign up](#) or [contact us](#). 952-442-2101. New Member Classes are February 26th at 10:45am and/or March 1st at 7:00 p.m. in the Community Room. Spring New Member Recognition – Sunday, March 12th, 9:00am or Wednesday, March 15th, 6:00pm.

Anything you'd like to see in the next newsletter? [Let us know!](#)

## STAFF NOTES

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## CHILDREN, YOUTH & HIGH SCHOOL MINISTRY

### A note from Shannon:

A few months ago, we were given the opportunity to partner a little more directly with Gather and Grow – our local food shelf. Chuck Bies from our social outreach group asked if any of our programs would be interested in collecting hearty soups to help with critical needs. I didn't hesitate, but will admit I was a little nervous if we could actually collect enough cans of soup to meet our commitment goal of 100. Leaping out in faith, I started promoting this project with our SPARK and BYG kids. And boy did they come through! In October, we collected 255 cans of soup! In November, we collected 170 boxes of pasta. In December, we collected 80 pounds of coffee. Since we started this partnership, Faith has collected and donated 600 pounds of food so far! For January, we are well on our way to at least 100 boxes of different cracker varieties. (February will be granola bars.)

Throughout all of this, I have watched this go from being a SPARK and BYG project to a church wide project. It is such a joy to see that cart full each week! (Thank you to Chuck Bies and Mike Rinke for delivering items each week!) Thank YOU for your partnership with us to reach our goals.

In a couple of weeks (February 12th), BYG will be hosting our Souper Bowl of Caring. This event is another way we can do a little push for those in our community who may be experiencing food insecurity. We will have our cart out, of course, but we'll also have large soup pots for you to bring financial donations – checks, cash, coins that we will donate in addition to food items.

I have seen Faith step up. I have seen how Faith comes through to help when asked. These community partnerships are just a couple of the ones Faith participates in. We have been given many opportunities and it is a JOY to see our faith community reach out – not just within our building, but in our city, state, country and world.

### UPCOMING EVENTS/THINGS TO LOOK FOR:

#### BYG Bowlero Event – February 5<sup>th</sup>, 2:15 – 5:15 p.m.

One of the wonderful pieces of our BYG (Bridge Youth Group) is not only does it focus on faith, but it also has a relationship building piece. We will be going to Bowlero in Eden Prairie to build on those relationships. Cost: Your BYG registration fee covers the bowling, shoe rental, unlimited soda/lemonade, and a \$7 arcade card. You are welcome to bring money for concessions, however, Bowlero uses a cashless system.



#### BYG and IGNITE partner with FMSC – February 15<sup>th</sup>

We have a limited amount of spaces for each shift. Consider getting your youth's small group to serve together at the same time! There are two shifts available.

· 3:45pm- 7:00pm · 6:15pm- 9:30pm

[Click to register>>](#) When you register, please list ALL participants (adults and youth) and if a ride is needed in the comments.

#### Monday Fun Day – February 20<sup>th</sup>, 9 - 11:30 a.m.

Not sure how to spend President's Day?! Come to Faith! FREE Event! Ages: Preschool (3yrs) – High School. Shannon & Shane will have crafts, games, snacks, and more! Caregivers are welcome to stay or drop off their kiddos.

A registration will be set up to make sure we have enough supplies. Watch the website and your emails for more information.

#### Children's Ministry Lock-In (1<sup>st</sup>-4<sup>th</sup> Grade) – March 17<sup>th</sup>, 6– 9:30 p.m.

Come join us as we get a chance to hang out with our friends, eat pizza, play games and have a ton of FUN! Friends are welcome! Watch the website and your emails for more information and a link to register.

### SUMMER PEEK AHEAD

- Stellar Vacation Bible School, June 5th- 8th, 9am -12pm.



- Summer Stretch – July 10th-14th



- Gather...Grow...Go – Green Lake Bible Camp 2023!



[To register, go to their website](#)

### DATES TO KNOW:

March 9- April 13 – Lenten Worship  
(No regular BYG programming.  
BYG resumes April 20th.)

May 1 - Music Sunday/ May Day/  
Come Back to Faith event!

May 31 - Outdoor Summer  
Wednesday Worship begins!



## UPDATES FROM SHANE



### IGNITE CONFIRMATION

7th & 8th Grades

IGNITE started off 2023 with Pastors Katie, Adam, and Eric Aune teaching about What It Means To Be A Lutheran. They taught about the history of Martin Luther, how Luther read the Bible, Christian freedom, and the worldwide nature of the ELCA. We are excited and getting ready for our annual tradition of prepping and serving Soup Suppers for the Lenten services!



IGNITE students participating in Pastor Adam's activity about Origin Stories during his lesson on the history of Martin Luther.



### BURN CONFIRMATION

9th Grade

Our 9th Grade students have been given assignments for writing their I Believe statements. This year the assignment is helping them tie together their experiences of faith in the past, the meaning of their faith in the present, and the commitments they want to make in the future. They'll have an opportunity to read their papers and reflect on them with each other at our annual retreat in March at Green Lake Bible camp!



BURN students sorting out scripture passages and personal activities to match up with the Lutheran Baptismal Promises.



### GLOW

9th-12th Grades

The high school students are taking some great strides in leadership this year. They will be leading the discussion for Film & Faith, using C.S. Lewis "The Four Loves" as a lens to think about the movie together. They are also planning and hosting a high school lock in at the end of February!

## UPCOMING EVENTS:

### Glow Lock-In!

All high school students are invited to our first ever Glow Lock-In - February 25-26. We'll start at 7p by making sushi (so eat dinner first if that's not your thing!). We'll play games, navigate an escape room (?!?), watch a movie, use the bonfire pit, have late night pizza, and then crash to sleep somewhere around 2a. Come to see who won the fight over getting to make breakfast: Bubba with waffles, or Pastor Adam with crepes (maybe both?!)

### BURN Retreat

Our 9th graders are headed to Green Lake for our annual Confirmation retreat, March 24-26th. Students will get a chance to share and hear each other's I Believe statements, as well as prepare their confirmation projects and prepare for the confirmation service on April 23rd.

### BWCA Leadership Trip

A chance to explore identity while connecting with God and nature! July 30-Aug 4 (registration nearly full!) [Contact Shane for more information.](#)

**Confirmation - April 23**

**Graduation - May 21**





### Common Hope

Common Hope promotes hope and opportunity in Guatemala by partnering with children, families and communities who want to participate in a process of development to improve their lives through education, health care, housing & family development. [Donate Now >>](#)

### Common Hope 2022 Vision Team

Fifteen Common Hope vision team volunteers departed for Antigua, Guatemala on October 16 for a week of learning and serving. Common Hope is a St. Paul-based organization devoted to fighting poverty with diplomas.

A highlight was getting to visit with our sponsored students and their families in their homes. It's always a meaningful experience to meet those we support from afar.

Another highlight was building a home for one of Common Hope's affiliated families. The family members were so grateful for our efforts and were very excited to move into their new two-room home. Having a home with a concrete floor, windows, and four solid walls provides a significant upgrade in the family's living situation.

Other activities included interactive visits to the businesses of Common Hope-affiliated families. For example, we learned the process of chocolate making from harvesting pods from the cocoa tree to making truffles.

Beautiful weather, terrific guides and translators, and a wide variety of activities made for the experience of a lifetime!

Faith is considering sending another Vision Team to Guatemala in 2024 or 2025. If you are interested in learning more, please contact Kris Ebent at [krisebent@gmail.com](mailto:krisebent@gmail.com). Questions? Contact Kris Ebent at 952-237-5190 or [email Kris >>](#)

**Cristo Obrero** is a mission of the Minneapolis Area Synod. Cristo Obrero is accompanying Latino families in Chaska and Shakopee, sharing God's love and grace for ALL! There are many ways to get involved with Cristo Obrero, including:

- Supporting 2 communities in Chaska through after school tutoring, summer youth programs and holiday events
- Supporting Christmas in July to provide backpacks and school supplies for students in the 2 communities in Chaska
- Participating in VBS At The Farm, a 1 week bilingual vacation bible school in August hosted by Cristo Obrero and attended by several churches in Carver/Chaska/Shakopee area

Please contact Pastor Stephanie Espinoza (630-723-7207) from Cristo Obrero or Grace Harrison (715-338-2326) from Prairie Oaks Institute with any questions. [Sign-up now to help!](#)



### Families Moving Forward

Families Moving Forward is a program of Beacon Interfaith Housing Collaborative.

Thank you to the volunteers who helped with meal delivery Sept. The Families Moving Forward sponsoring organization, Beacon, has decided to continue housing the families in a hotel through the first half of 2023. Faith Lutheran will be sourcing and delivering evening meals for the families for two weekly periods. The hosting weeks will be Feb 19 and April 23.

Faith Lutheran along with our FMF partner, Waconia Moravian, will be hosting meal delivery the week of Feb 19 through the 25th. Look for a Sign Up Genius to volunteer for meal delivery opportunities. The work involves shopping for grocery supplies or picking up prepared meals at designated restaurants in Waconia and delivering them to the families at a hotel in Chaska.

Also, our FMF team is seeking a person to serve as an admin. The work is focused around the week prior and week during each hosting event. If interested please contact [Ross Hanson](#) to review the job description at 612-819-4064.

For more information, please see our website or contact [Ross Hanson](#) at [hossranson@gmail.com](mailto:hossranson@gmail.com) or [Steve Smith](#) at [steveandsteph@gmail.com](mailto:steveandsteph@gmail.com).



## LOVE INC

Love INC Carver County works hard at nurturing relationships with churches, school districts, government agencies and other service organizations to identify unmet needs that emerge in the community. We help the local churches in our network build ministries to respond – to fill these gaps in local services so that neighbors get the help they need.

- Supporting the personal care items ministry by partnering with St. Joseph's and Trinity.
- Supporting the backpacks & school supplies drive sponsored by Trinity
- Supporting the Thanksgiving delivery sponsored by St. Joseph's
- Supporting the Joy Jam Christmas Gift delivery sponsored by Parkside
- Hosting and supporting the Easter Basket delivery

We will again partner with Love INC to gather items for Easter Baskets that will be distributed through Gather and Grow (the Waconia Area Food-shelf.) We will collect cash donations, individually wrapped candy and small basket stuffers. Baskets will be assembled at Faith. More information will be coming and anyone interested in helping is welcome.

**Gather & Grow (Waconia United Food Shelf)** will be participating in the 42<sup>nd</sup> annual March Food Share campaign again this year! Like in years past Hunger Solutions will donate a percentage of our total donations over the course of the campaign (taking into account both food and funds). There's plenty of time to get involved as the Pack The Pews campaign runs February 27<sup>th</sup> – April 9<sup>th</sup>, 2023 We would love for your congregation to have some fun with this and support our efforts to provide quality groceries to our neighbors!

For full info check out their website: [March Campaign](#)

- Providing food and financial donations to support Gather & Grow
- Providing specific high demand food donations to meet higher community needs. Each month will focus on a specific item.
- Participating in volunteer shifts during client shopping times
- Participating in as needed volunteer opportunities for food rescue, stocking shelves and providing home deliveries
- Participating in the Walk on Waconia to raise funds



## MEALS on WHEELS

### Meals On Wheels

More volunteers are needed for this ministry. Time involved is about 1 hour per month. Great way to help out in the community!

Want more information or want to signup? [Contact Beth Wentland](#)



## WALK ON WACONIA

Gather & Grow Food Shelf

5K • 10K • 10 Mile • Run Against Hunger

### Walk On Waconia

Saturday, May 20, 2023 is the 16<sup>th</sup> Annual Walk On Waconia! Walkers and runners welcome. The friendly, small town race around beautiful Lake Waconia includes:

NEW: 5K Option  
 NEW: Friday Night Check-in option  
 NEW: Friday Night Pasta Meal(\$10)  
 10K and 10 Mile Options  
 Shirts for all  
 54 medals for will be awarded!  
 Stunning Views of Lake Waconia

Only \$30 (early bird pricing)! All of the proceeds of the Walk On Waconia will benefit the Waconia United Food Shelf.

Faith Lutheran will be a rest stop on the walk, so we will need a few volunteers to be at Faith, if you would like to help, [let us know >](#)

[Click to register to walk>>](#)

## SMALL GROUPS

### OPEN TO ALL ADULTS:

#### Tuesday "Bag Lunch" Book Study      Tuesdays      11:45-12:45

Please join us as we dive deeper into books that focus on personal transformation, deepening our spirituality and expanding our ideas about God's presence in the world. We will start back up Tuesday, January 10 as we begin to discuss "Razing Hell" by Sharon Baker. We meet in the Fireside Room from 11:45-1pm with some joining by Zoom. For info or for the Zoom details contact Lois Lindell at 952-994-5994 or lois.lindell@gmail.com, or Mike Rinke at 218-821-8082 or rinkeom@gmail.com

#### Tuesday Bible Study      Tuesdays      9:15am

The Psalms are not just the easiest book in the Bible to find (right in the middle of your Bible), but as Martin Luther says, "You will find your life in the Psalms."

Join us on Tuesdays at 9:15 am (due to lack of participation the 7pm class has been put on hold) as you study your favorite Psalms and some new Psalms that will become the playlist for your life of faith. No class February 14. Attend when you can. Look forward to seeing you! Pastor Eric. Questions? Contact Pastor Eric Aune at eaune@allsaintsny.org

#### Pastor's Book Study      Thursdays      1-2:30pm

We are reading Walter Brueggemann's book *Sabbath as Resistance: Saying No to the Culture of Now*. Brueggemann offers a transformative vision of the wholeness God intends, giving world-weary Christians a glimpse of a more fulfilling and simpler life through Sabbath observance. We will meet in the Fireside Room. Drop-ins are welcome! Have any questions? Contact Pastor Katie at katie@waconiafaithlutheran.com or Pastor Adam at adam@waconiafaithlutheran.com

#### Art Enthusiasts      2nd Saturday      9:30am-12pm

If you are an artist (or want to be) age 10 to 99 you are invited! One of our artists will demonstrate a technique, method or tip they have learned so we can learn from each other. Then you will have time to work on whatever you want, get critiques from the other artists on how to improve and just explore. We will meet the second Saturday of the month in the Sonshine room. Remember to bring something to work on (you don't need more than a piece of paper and a pencil!) Questions? Ask organizer Jesse Bergstrom at jessebergstrom@hotmail.com

### OPEN TO 55+

#### S.A.G.E.S.

S.A.G.E.S. are a group of 55+ years of age people who join in faith and fellowship. Events occur several times a year to provide service and social opportunities. See side panel for upcoming events planned for this year. Ideas for the future events include: Additional Ideas: Bowling, Church Basement Ladies, Old Log Theater, & Speakers. Contact Christine Austin-Roehler at 952-442-4751 or Sandy Gilbert at 952-446-1424 to help or share ideas.



S.A.G.E.S. are a group of 55+ years of age people who join in faith & fellowship. Some of the events coming up include:

January - February: Feed My Starving Children & lunch at Perkins January 23; Game Night

March: Potluck with speaker

April - May: Como Park Conservatory and Zoo, Carver Co. Historical Society/Peterson Farm, Barn Quilt Tour

June: City Park Potluck and speaker Joe Gifford on war monument refurbishment

July or August: Jersey Boys at Chanhassen Dinner Theatres, Walk/bike along Dakota Trail

September: Late afternoon potluck and pontoon ride from Lake Waconia Regional Park

October: Progressive Dinner

December: Concert To Be Determined with reception by SAGES

Contacts: Christine Austin-Roehler 952-442-4751 or Sandy Gilbert 952-446-1424



Our group of 17 from SAGES, along with others packing with them, packed enough food to feed 46 kids for one year!



## SMALL GROUPS

### FOR MEN

#### Thursday Morning Text Study

Thursdays

8-9am

All men are invited to attend the Thursday Morning Men's Text Study as we wrestle with the lectionary texts for the upcoming Sunday. The preaching pastor for the coming Sunday will lead a study of the scriptures they are preaching on that week, deepening your engagement in Sunday morning worship. Meetings in the Fireside Room, come every week or whatever fits your schedule, drop-ins welcome. Contact Information: Pastor Adam at adam@waconiafaithlutheran.com or Pastor Katie at katie@waconiafaithlutheran.com or 952-442-2101.

### FOR WOMEN

#### Knit and Natter

1st & 3rd Weds

9-10:30am

Visit with friends while knitting a prayer shawl or working on your own knitting or crocheting project. Enjoy this time to express a bit of creativity and enjoy the company of other knitting/crocheting enthusiasts. All levels encouraged. Hand sewers or other crafters welcome. We will begin meeting in September and continue meeting on the first & third Wednesdays of the month in the Fireside Room. Questions? Contact: Paula Streiff if you have any questions p.streiff@mchsi.com

#### Crafters Connect

2nd & 4th Weds

10-11:45am

Whether you are looking for extra space to spread out to work or just some camaraderie while you craft, bring your project and supplies and come join us in Steiner Hall. A great opportunity to find sometime to be creative and enjoy some good company. Questions? Contact the office at 952-442-2101

#### Wednesday's Book Group

Wednesdays

10:30am-12pm

We're not a book club - we discuss books chapter by chapter. We meet as a group of women for the purpose of reading a book together. The current book is *Lose Love Live* by Dan Moseley, available in the church office for \$10. Contact Marit Rinke: 612-735-8900.

#### Mom's Connect AM

Thursdays

9:30am-11am

This group is for women with children looking to build Christian friendships and to deepen spiritual growth. Moms of kids ranging from babies through college-aged are invited to attend. Join them in reading & discussing "*Untamed & Untamed Workbook*" by Glennon Doyle. Meet in the Fireside Room. Childcare is provided for \$5/family with online registration. Contact: Pastor Katie at katie@waconiafaithlutheran.com with questions.

#### 4th Thursday Book Club

4th Thursdays

7pm

This is a small group setting for adult women to discuss an entire book. Both fiction and nonfiction books are chosen by the group. We will meet in the Fireside Room. Watch for titles/authors in Faith's newsletter, eblast and bulletins. Contacts: Paula Streiff at paulastreiff@gmail.com

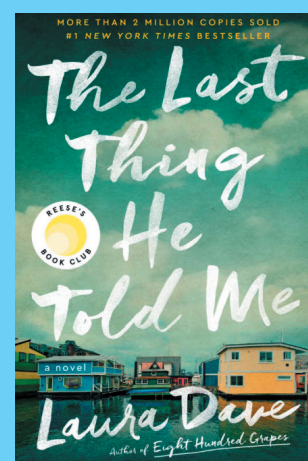
Upcoming books/dates to note:

February 23: *THE GIRL WITH SEVEN NAMES* by Hyeonseo Lee and David John

March 23: *THE LAST THING HE TOLD ME* by Laura Dave

April 27: *HOW THE PENGUINS SAVED VERONICA* by Hazel Prior & Lenn Keefe

May 25: *THE SECRET DIARY OF HENDRIK GROEN* by Hendrik Groen



*Interested in starting a new small group? Whether its social, service or spiritual based, we welcome ideas and opportunities for our members to connect with each other and with Christ. Contact us with your ideas!*

## HAPPENINGS & EVENTS

### Dinner for 8 Casual Potlucks

Welcome to "Dinner for 8" at Faith! Sign up to be grouped with other adults or families to share 4 potlucks in rotating homes once/month for four months. Hosts are urged to keep it simple! Groups will be formed in mid-February, and are invited to plan their own potluck dates month by month via e-mail. [Click here to sign-up >>](#) Please direct any questions to Pastor Katie at [katie@waconiafaithlutheran.com](mailto:katie@waconiafaithlutheran.com)



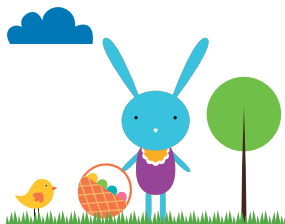
### Pack the Pews!

Fill a bag (or two!) to help a local family in need. We are once again partnering with Gather & Grow to help gather staples for those in need. Ideas of what to fill a bag with include: Oatmeal packets, Cereal, 100% Juice, Hearty Soups, Peanut Butter, Canned Pasta Varieties, Brown or White Rice, Pasta Varieties, Pasta Sauces, Taco Seasoning, Taco Shells, Canned Chili, Crackers, Ground Coffee, Kleenex, Lotion, Size 4, 5, & 6 Diapers, Baby Wipes, Granola Bars, Cleaning Supplies, Cooking Broth.



### Easter Baskets

We will again partner with Love INC to gather items for Easter Baskets that will be distributed through Gather and Grow (the Waconia Area Foodshelf.) We will collect cash donations, individually wrapped candy and small basket stuffers. Baskets will be assembled at Faith. More information will be coming and anyone interested in helping is welcome.



We will welcome guest musicians Billy and Angie on February 12th and Alexis Cairy on May 28th.

Our Lenten Holden Evening Prayer services will be led by cantors and an instrumental ensemble.

Our Easter Sunday Morning Worship will be led by the Faith Brass Ensemble.

Interested in sharing your musical gifts?

Contact Shelly Hilgers at [hilgersshelly@gmail.com](mailto:hilgersshelly@gmail.com) or stop by the Church Office.

## RECURRING EVENTS

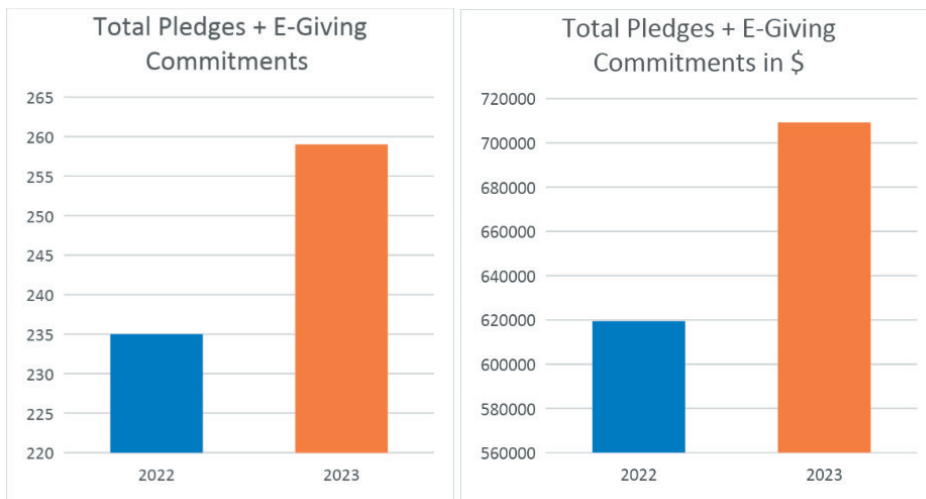
Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<b>9am:</b> Worship & SPARK <b>10am:</b> Connection Cafe <b>10:30am:</b> Worship  (Communion 1st & 3rd Sundays)		<b>9:15am:</b> Bible Study  <b>11:45am:</b> Bag Lunch Book Study  <b>7pm:</b> AA/Alanon  <b>7pm:</b> Faithful Ringers  <b>7pm:</b> Theology Tour (1st Tuesday of the month)	<b>9am:</b> Knit & Natter (1st & 3rd Wed)  <b>10am:</b> Crafting (2nd & 4th Wed)  <b>5pm:</b> SPARK  <b>6pm:</b> Prime Time  <b>7pm:</b> IGNITE & BYG  <b>7:45pm:</b> Faith Choir  <b>8pm:</b> GLOW	<b>8am:</b> Men's Text Study  <b>9:30am:</b> Mom's Connect  <b>7pm:</b> 4th Thursday Book Club (4th Th)	<b>7pm:</b> AA/Alanon	<b>9:30am:</b> Art Enthusiast (usually the 2nd Saturday)

## Stewardship

# FORWARD *together* → → → →

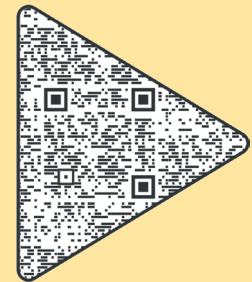
Forward Together, Faith Lutheran's 2023 Annual Appeal, was a success! Thank you for your faithful and generous participation. To date we have received 259 pledges and/or e-giving commitments totaling \$709,178 for 2023. This represents a 14% increase in dollars pledged and/or committed over 2022 pledges and/or commitments. If you have not yet pledged or set up e-giving and would like to, [click here](#) or [contact Mike](#) in the church office: 952-442-2101.

## FINANCIALS

**Our Mission Offerings for 2023:**

January: Southern Valley Alliance  
 February: Beacon Housing Coop  
 March: Gather & Grow Waconia United Food Shelf  
 April: Families Moving Forward  
 May: Camperships  
 June: Lutheran Campus Ministries of TC  
 July: ELCA World Hunger  
 August: Public Safety Ministries  
 September: Love INC  
 November: Cristo Obrero  
 December: Redeemer Lutheran Church

You can contribute to these offerings by selection Mission Fund on our Realm online giving or you can write Mission Fund on the subject line of your check or on the envelop if you do a cash donation. Thank you for your kindness & generosity!



Scan now to give!

**Next Faith In Action...**

We would love to share YOUR story...how has being a part of Faith impacted your life? If you would like to share a story, [please let us know!](#)



**Last year we were able to raise over \$6,600 for our Mission Offerings!**



## LENT/EASTER & RELATIONSHIP RETREAT

### Easter/Lenten Schedule:

#### Ash Wednesday (February 22)

12pm: Worship • 1pm: Soup Lunch

5pm: Worship • 5:30pm: Soup Supper • 7pm: Worship  
NO SPARK or BYG



#### Wednesdays in Lent

Wednesdays in Lent our sermon series will focus on Seven Last Words, the last words of Jesus with Holden Evening Prayer. Join us on Wednesdays throughout Lent for our Soup Suppers from 5:30-6:45pm followed by Worship at 7pm. We will also have our regular worship services on Sunday at 9am and 10:30am.

#### Soup Suppers • \$5/pp \$20 family max

Wednesdays in Lent IGNITE will help host our soup suppers. There will be 3 different soup options every week (1 vegetarian), rolls, salads and dessert\*. Invite your friends & neighbors to join us - new visitors to Faith are welcome to soup supper for FREE. They just need to come join us and sign into our visitors log.

\*Please considering signing up to bring a salad or dessert (cookies, bars, etc) to share.

Please note: there is no soup supper during holy week (4/2-4/9)  
Financial assistance available, please contact the church office.

#### Holy Week Schedule

Palm Sunday, April 2: 9am Worship & 10:30am Worship

Maundy Thursday, April 6: Worship at 7pm

Good Friday, April 7: 3pm Worship (Children's & Family) & 7pm Worship

Easter Vigil, April 8: 7pm Worship

Easter Worship, April 9: 9:00am Worship & 10:30am Worship

Faith will be hosting the community Easter Baskets for those in need, in partnership with Love Inc. More information on how to get involved will be provided as we get closer to the event. For questions please contact Chuck Bies at [chuckbies@gmail.com](mailto:chuckbies@gmail.com)

Easter Flower Orders: On Easter Sunday, the flowers will decorate our Sanctuary. All flowers and names will be listed in the bulletin. Watch for information to come late February with options, pricing and how to purchase.



### RELATIONSHIP RETREAT

#### April 14-15 in Eden Prairie

This year's relationship retreat is focused on (Re)Connecting and Staying Connected. Diane Foy, a licensed Psychologist, will be our presenter and equip us with strategies to both reconnect and stay connected.

The retreat will begin at 5pm on Friday, April 14 & end the 15th at 3pm. You can do Friday & Saturday, or there is a Saturday only option. Cost vary depening on which options you select. Registration deadline is March 15. [Click to learn more >>](#)

Diane Foy has been trained in the Gottman Method, level 3, as well as the Gottman Method for Treating Affairs and Betrayal and is a certified leader for The 7 Principles of Making a Marriage Work. She has decades of experience, and is owner of Foy Psychological Therapies in Wayzata.

### A note from Pastor Katie...

This is an exciting time at Faith Lutheran. Last year, we welcomed 75 new members between baptisms and members who joined. Our children and youth programs are booming. The Youth Choir is starting, Faith Choir, Faithful Ringers and the Prime Time Band are going strong. We are deepening our engagement with our ministry partners. For instance, we've donated over 700 pounds of food to Gather and Grow since October. Incredible! Faith has great vitality.

There is life and there is potential. As Waconia and the surrounding communities grow and add many new homes over the next few years, there is great potential for expanding our communication and engagement with our wider community. We need to be intentional about communicating with the community differently and reaching into new neighborhoods. We need all of our members to become inviters.

These goals are big and they are attainable, if we work together. All of us are called to this work together. After all, our vision statement, our 'where are we headed' statement, is "To be a dynamic, energized worshiping community where all are growing in their relationship with Jesus Christ, one another and those beyond our walls."

### Greetings from your Church Council!

On January 22 the church council held its annual meeting and provided a financial report to the congregation, as well as an update on the process to revise the church constitution. The annual report and minutes from the congregational meeting are available on the church website. In short, the church ended the year in good financial health and the council is continuing to work with the Minneapolis Synod Office on the revisions to the constitution. More details will be provided regarding the constitution revision process at the May 2023 congregational meeting.

While 2022 was a year of change for Faith Lutheran, 2023 is promising to be an exciting year! We checked off a number of our goals for 2022 and now look forward to our goals for 2023. The following goals were presented at the conclusion of the congregational meeting along with a call to action for congregational assistance to help make them a reality. A couple of the goals relate to the internal workings of the church office, but the first three relate to our mission to reach out to our members and those beyond our walls. We need ideas and volunteers to further expand our reach and recruiting into the communities in which we live and work. Please [reach out to Pat Butler](mailto:pbutler1998@yahoo.com) at [pbutler1998@yahoo.com](mailto:pbutler1998@yahoo.com) with ideas!

### 2023 Goals for Faith Evangelical Lutheran Church

- 1- Become more engaged in the City of Waconia and surrounding communities and tell the story about the wonderful place that is Faith Lutheran Church and engage the congregation in these efforts
- 2- Provide opportunities for youth to get involved in and around the church and beyond.
- 3- Develop new leaders & volunteers to continue the work of each ministry & our church
- 4- Develop solid, repeatable, schedules and processes using best available technology to support ongoing church activities including publications, printing, marketing deliverables, volunteers, and office activities. This should include both due dates and the interim steps required to achieve completion on each due date.
- 5- 100% Complete the transition to Realm for all Faith Members.

**WE NEED  
YOUR HELP**

### Altar & Sacrament Ministry

Needs volunteers to help set up and clean up for communion Sundays (1st & 3rd). Contact [Kristin Bruellman](mailto:Kristin.Bruellman@faithlutheran.org) at 612-418-2012

### Office Assistant

If you are able to come in for a few hours a week, let us know! [Click here to volunteer>>](#)

### Worship Assistants

If you are able to help on Sundays or Wednesdays, let us know! [Click here to volunteer>>](#)

### Practice Inclusive Grace & Contagious Love

Invite friends and neighbors to join us! Share your story about how Faith is an important part of your life. Participate in worship & special events.



Goal #4 is about creating systems and processes within the staff office to facilitate efficiency when creating bulletins, recruiting volunteers, and completing regular tasks of the church office. So that we can free up staff and volunteer time to engage more deeply in their ministry.

Goal #5 is our ongoing effort to migrate everything to Realm, which hosts our database, registrations, and giving. We need your help in completing this migration. If you give online but have not migrated your gift to Realm, [please click here](#) and follow the steps to complete the migration process.

## MAP OF FAITH

We know that there are a lot of great spaces at Faith, but keeping track of what is where can be a bit tricky. Hopefully this map helps you find where you need to be. If you ever want a tour of the facility, please contact the church office.





### SPACE USAGE:

Sunday worship is in the Sanctuary

Wednesday Prime Time worship is in Steiner Hall

Wednesday Lenten worship is in the Sanctuary.

Connections Cafe is in Steiner Hall

Lenten Soup Suppers are in Steiner Hall

All Congregational Meetings are in Steiner Hall

SPARK is in the classrooms

BYG is in the classrooms

IGNITE meets in the Sanctuary

For small groups and church events, it is first come, first serve, and we will work to accommodate everyone as best as possible.

THE LIBRARY: Have you been in the library (to the left of the church offices)? We have a variety of books and resources available to our members, as well as a quiet space to enjoy them. Be sure to check it out!

### RENTING/RESERVING SPACES

Looking for the perfect place to host that graduation party, bridal shower or large family gathering? Or do you have a small group that needs space to meet? If you or a group you know are interested in renting space for an event additional information is available in the office. All church activities have priority over any outside group.

Members have priority for space rentals (some areas are reserved for members only.)

Please contact the church office for more information about availability, costs/fees, rules, etc regarding space rental.

Please account for set-up & clean-up in the time you are reserving. (Some set-up/clean-up maybe provide for a fee.)

AV Equipment rental available as well.

Deposit may be required.

Contact Mike Christopherson in the church office to learn more, check on availability or set-up a tour. 952-442-2101

*Thank you to the Altar & Sacrament Ministry/Altar Guild for always making sure our spaces look wonderful. If you are interested in becoming a part of the Worship & Altar Guild, please contact [Kristin Bruellman at bruellman1@embargo.com](mailto:Kristin.Bruellman@bruellman1@embargo.com)*



# CALENDAR-FEBRUARY

Faith Lutheran Website, Holidays in United States

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu
29	30	31	1	
9am - Sunday SPARK 9am - Worship 10:30am - Worship 11:30am - Marriage Retreat Planning 6pm - BURN 9th Grade	6:30pm - Scouts #3327 @ Education	9:15am - Tuesday Bible Study, Fireside 10am - Staff Meeting 11:45am - Bag Lunch Book Study- 7pm - AA/Alanon Ed Wing 7pm - Faithful Ringers	<b>First Day of Black History Month</b> 9am - Knit & Natter- Steiner Hall 10:30am - Wednesday Book Club 5pm - Wednesday SPARK 6pm - Prime Time Worship 7pm - BYG 7pm - IGNITE 7:45pm - Faith Choir	8am - Men's Text Study- Fireside 9:30am - Moms Connect, Fireside 1pm - Pastor's Book Study @ Community Room
5	6	7	8	
9am - Sunday SPARK 9am - Worship 10:30am - Worship 2:15pm - BYG to Bowlero	6:30pm - Scouts #3327 @ Education	9:15am - Tuesday Bible Study, Fireside 10am - Staff Meeting 11:45am - Bag Lunch Book Study- 7pm - AA/Alanon Ed Wing 7pm - Faithful Ringers 7pm - Property & Maintenance Steiner 7pm - Theology Tour	10am - Crafting Group- Fireside 10:30am - Wednesday Book Club 5pm - Wednesday SPARK 6pm - Prime Time Worship 7pm - BYG 7pm - IGNITE 7:45pm - Faith Choir 8pm - GLOW (HSM)	8am - Men's Text Study- Fireside 9:30am - Moms Connect, Fireside 1pm - Pastor's Book Study @ Community Room
12	13	14	15	
9am - Sunday SPARK 9am - Worship 10am - The Youth Choir - Community 10:30am - Worship 11:45am - Baptism Class 6pm - BURN 9th Grade	6:30pm - Scouts #3327 @ Education	<b>Valentine's Day</b> 9:15am - Tuesday Bible Study, NOT 10am - Staff Meeting 11:45am - Bag Lunch Book Study- 7pm - AA/Alanon Ed Wing 7pm - Faithful Ringers	9am - Knit & Natter- Fireside 9am - Tax Aide @ Community Room 10:30am - Wednesday Book Club 5pm - Wednesday SPARK 6pm - Prime Time Worship 7pm - BYG (Service Night) 7pm - IGNITE 7:45pm - Faith Choir	8am - Men's Text Study- Fireside 9:30am - Moms Connect, Fireside 1pm - Pastor's Book Study @ Community Room
19	20	21	22	
<b>1st Communion Celebration</b> 9am - Sunday SPARK 9am - Worship 10am - Faith in 15 10:30am - Worship	<b>Presidents' Day</b> 9am - Monday Fun Day (CYF) 6:30pm - Scouts #3327 @ Education	9:15am - Tuesday Bible Study, Fireside 10am - Staff Meeting 11:45am - Bag Lunch Book Study- 6:30pm - Church Council- Virtual 7pm - AA/Alanon Ed Wing 7pm - Faithful Ringers	<b>Ash Wednesday</b> <b>No SPARK or BYG (Ash Wed.)</b> 9am - Tax Aide @ Community Room 10am - Crafting Group- Fireside 10:30am - Wednesday Book Club 12pm - Ash Wednesday Worship followed 5pm - Ash Wednesday Family Worship 5:30pm - Soup Supper	8am - Men's Text Study- Fireside 9:30am - Moms Connect, Fireside 1pm - Pastor's Book Study @ Community Room 7pm - 4th Thursday Book Club
26	27	28	1	
<b>Pack the Pews - Ends April 9</b> 9am - Sunday SPARK 9am - Worship 10:30am - Worship 11:45am - New Member Class 6pm - BURN 9th Grade	6:30pm - Scouts #3327 @ Education	9:15am - Tuesday Bible Study, Fireside 10am - Staff Meeting 11:45am - Bag Lunch Book Study- 7pm - AA/Alanon Ed Wing 7pm - Faithful Ringers	<b>First Day of Women's History Month</b> 9am - Knit & Natter- Steiner Hall 9am - Tax Aide @ Community Room 10:30am - Wednesday Book Club 5pm - Wednesday SPARK 5:30pm - Soup Supper 6pm - Prime Time Worship 7pm - New Member Class	8am - Men's Text Study- Fireside 9:30am - Moms Connect, Fireside 1pm - Pastor's Book Study @ Community Room

[CLICK HERE TO VIEW THE CALENDAR ON OUR WEBSITE >>](#)

Feb 2023 (Central Time - Chicago)

Fri		Sat	
2	7pm - AA/Alanon Education Wing	3	4
side/Virtual side Fireside			
9	7pm - AA/Alanon Education Wing	10	11
side/Virtual side Fireside		9:30am - Art Enthusiasts 10am - Communion Retreat 7pm - Film & Faith	
16	7pm - AA/Alanon Education Wing	17	18
side/Virtual side Fireside			
23	7pm - AA/Alanon Education Wing	24	25
side/Virtual side Fireside			
2	7pm - AA/Alanon Education Wing	3	4
side/Virtual side Fireside			

## DATES TO NOTE

February 5: BYG Event at Bowlero

February 8 & 12: Souper Bowl (Tackle Hunger Fundraiser)

February 15: Feed My Starving Children Service Event for BYG & IGNITE

February 19-25: FMF Hosting

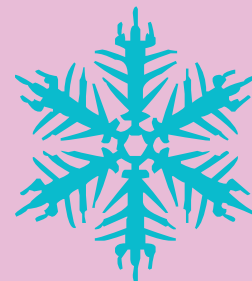
February 20: Monday Fun Day!

February 22: Ash Wednesday

February 27: Start of Pack The Pews

## Weather Reminder:

Winter is here! Again, we will follow the ISD110 schedule, so if they cancel, we cancel. If it is a Sunday, we will have info submitted to WCCO & KSTP as well as post on Facebook and alert you via email if events at the church are canceled due to weather issues.





# CALENDAR-MARCH

Faith Lutheran Website, Holidays in United States

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu
26 Pack the Pews - Ends April 9 9am - Sunday SPARK 9am - Worship 10:30am - Worship 11:45am - New Member Class 6pm - BURN 9th Grade	27 6:30pm - Scouts #3327 @ Education	28 9:15am - Tuesday Bible Study, Fireside 10am - Staff Meeting 11:45am - Bag Lunch Book Study- 7pm - AA/Alanon Ed Wing 7pm - Faithful Ringers	1 First Day of Women's History Month 9am - Knit & Natter- Steiner Hall 9am - Tax Aide @ Community Room 10:30am - Wednesday Book Club 5pm - Wednesday SPARK 5:30pm - Soup Supper 6pm - Prime Time Worship 7pm - New Member Class 7:45pm - Faith Choir	8am - Men's Text Study- FI 9:30am - Moms Connect, F 1pm - Pastor's Book Study
5 No SPARK Pack the Pews - Ends April 9 9am - Worship 10:30am - Worship	6 6:30pm - Scouts #3327 @ Education	7 9:15am - Tuesday Bible Study, Fireside 10am - Staff Meeting 11:45am - Bag Lunch Book Study- 6:30pm - Worship & Music Ministry 7pm - AA/Alanon Ed Wing 7pm - Faithful Ringers 7pm - Property & Maintenance Steiner 7pm - Theology Tour	8 No SPARK 9am - Tax Aide @ Community Room 10am - Crafting Group- Fireside 10:30am - Wednesday Book Club 5:30pm - Soup Supper 6pm - Prime Time Worship 7:45pm - Faith Choir	8am - Men's Text Study- FI 1pm - Pastor's Book Study
12 Daylight Saving Time starts Pack the Pews - Ends April 9 9am - Sunday SPARK 9am - Worship 10:30am - Worship 6pm - BURN 9th Grade	13 6:30pm - Prime Time Band Rehearsal @ 6:30pm - Scouts #3327 @ Education	14 9:15am - Tuesday Bible Study, Fireside 10am - Staff Meeting 11:45am - Bag Lunch Book Study- 7pm - AA/Alanon Ed Wing 7pm - Faithful Ringers	15 9am - Knit & Natter- Fireside 9am - Tax Aide @ Community Room 10:30am - Wednesday Book Club 5pm - Wednesday SPARK 5:30pm - Soup Supper 6pm - Prime Time Worship 7:45pm - Faith Choir 8pm - GLOW (HSM)	8am - Men's Text Study- FI 9:30am - Moms Connect, F 1pm - Pastor's Book Study
19 Pack the Pews - Ends April 9 9am - Sunday SPARK 9am - Worship 10:30am - Worship	20 6:30pm - Scouts #3327 @ Education	21 9:15am - Tuesday Bible Study, Fireside 10am - Staff Meeting 11:45am - Bag Lunch Book Study- 6:30pm - Church Council- Virtual 7pm - AA/Alanon Ed Wing 7pm - Faithful Ringers	22 9am - Tax Aide @ Community Room 10am - Crafting Group- Fireside 10:30am - Wednesday Book Club 5pm - Wednesday SPARK 5:30pm - Soup Supper 6pm - Prime Time Worship 7:45pm - Faith Choir 8pm - GLOW (HSM)	8am - Men's Text Study- FI 9:30am - Moms Connect, F 1pm - Pastor's Book Study 7pm - 4th Thursday Book C
26 Pack the Pews - Ends April 9 9am - Sunday SPARK 9am - Worship 10:30am - Worship 6pm - BURN 9th Grade	27 6:30pm - Prime Time Band Rehearsal @ 6:30pm - Scouts #3327 @ Education	28 9:15am - Tuesday Bible Study, Fireside 10am - Staff Meeting 11:45am - Bag Lunch Book Study- 7pm - AA/Alanon Ed Wing 7pm - Faithful Ringers	29 9am - Tax Aide @ Community Room 10:30am - Wednesday Book Club 5pm - Wednesday SPARK 5:30pm - Soup Supper 6pm - Prime Time Worship 7:45pm - Faith Choir 8pm - GLOW (HSM)	8am - Men's Text Study- FI 9:30am - Moms Connect, F 1pm - Pastor's Book Study

[CLICK HERE TO VIEW THE CALENDAR ON OUR WEBSITE >>](#)

Mar 2023 (Central Time - Chicago)		
Fri		Sat
2 reside/Virtual fireside @ Fireside	3 7pm - AA/Alanon Education Wing	4
9 reside/Virtual @ Fireside	10 7pm - AA/Alanon Education Wing	11 9:30am - Art Enthusiasts
16 reside/Virtual fireside @ Fireside	17 St. Patrick's Day 6pm - Children's Ministry Lock-In (1st- 7pm - AA/Alanon Education Wing	18
23 reside/Virtual fireside @ Fireside Club	24 9th Grade Retreat 7pm - AA/Alanon Education Wing	25
30 reside/Virtual fireside @ Fireside	31 7pm - AA/Alanon Education Wing	1

**DATES TO NOTE**

Lenten Soup Suppers: Wednesdays from 5:30-6:45pm

March 1: New Member Class

March 5-11: IDS110 (Waconia Area Schools) Spring Break

March 12& 15: New Member Recognition

March 24-25: 9th Grade Retreat

*Camp @ Green Lake  
July 23-27*

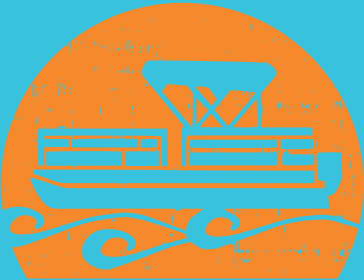
*BWCA Leadership Trip  
July 30-Aug 4*



## Summer Preview



FUN



SUMMER 2023  
**gathergrowgo**

**WEDNESDAY**



**WORSHIP**



YOUNG ADULT  
PILGRIMAGE TO TAIZÉ