



# Faith Lutheran Church

Receiving and Sharing the Love of Christ  
May 2026 Newsletter



<sup>22</sup> A Canaanite woman from that region came out and was crying, “Have mercy on me, O Lord, Son of David; my daughter is severely oppressed by a demon.” <sup>23</sup> But he did not answer her a word. And his disciples came and begged him, saying, “Send her away, for she is crying out after us.” <sup>24</sup> He answered, “**I was sent only to the lost sheep of the house of Israel.**” <sup>25</sup> But she came and knelt before him, saying, “Lord, help me.” <sup>26</sup> And he answered, “**It is not right to take the children’s bread and throw it to the dogs.**” <sup>27</sup> She said, “Yes, Lord, yet even the dogs eat the crumbs that fall from their masters’ table.” <sup>28</sup> Then Jesus answered her, “**O woman, great is your faith! Let it be done for you as you desire.**” And her daughter was healed instantly. *Matthew 15:22–28 (ESV)*

Dear Friends in Christ,

We are about to enter the 5<sup>th</sup> month of 2026 – May. Think of May and I think of Mother’s Day, Graduations, Memorial Day and the distress call Mayday – Mayday – Mayday. As I was thinking about May I was wondering about the Mayday distress call. Why or how did it come about that Mayday came to be used as a distress call. I learned that Mayday call was established in 1923 by a radioman in London. It was at the time, one of the busiest airports in the world, flights between France and England. They needed a word that would break through radio static with clarity. Mayday comes from the French word -- *m'aidez* which is translated into English as “Help Me.” Mayday doesn’t have anything to do with the month of May.

In Matthew 15, a woman has a daughter possessed by a demon. The mother goes to Jesus begging for Mercy. No doubt she had read about Jesus performing miracles and so she has hope that Jesus can do something for her daughter. She is following Jesus, crying out after him and it is annoying the disciples. Finally, the disciples ask Jesus to send her away. The woman is not a part of Abraham’s family – she is a Canaanite woman. She is outside of the target group, and it seems as though she is being ignored for that very reason. Jesus Himself says, “I was sent only to the lost sheep of the house of Israel.” Seems a bit harsh doesn’t it. It is of no fault of this woman that she was born someplace else to a family that is outside of Abraham’s clan. She is desperate – falls down at the feet of Jesus and says – LORD, help me. Mayday – Mayday – Mayday.

One of the harshest statements of Jesus follows – imagine if it were spoken to you – “It is not right to take the children’s bread and throw it to the dogs.” Is Jesus really equating someone from Canaan is less than human? A dog? But look at her desperation and humility – “yes LORD, yet even the dogs eat the crumbs that fall from their master’s table.”

“O woman, great is your faith! Let it be done for you as you desire.” And her daughter was healed instantly. Was Jesus testing her faith? Was Jesus using her as an example of His mercy? When we cry Mayday, how do you expect Jesus to answer your cry to help you? We don’t deserve His mercy. We can’t demand that He do what we want, after all, we go to church and we put money in the offering plate and we serve Him and many and various ways. Don’t we deserve His help? NO! “My grace is sufficient for you for my power is made perfect in weakness.” (2 Cor. 12:9).

Trust in His mercy. Jesus came to save us from sin, death and hell. He will, in his way, answer our Mayday. To God be the Glory. Amen.

In His Service,  
Rev. Jeffrey A. Lee



## Mission of the Month Backpack Buddies of Erath County

During the month of May, Faith will partner with Backpack Buddies in prayer and with financial support as our Mission of the Month. Backpack Buddies works with the Tarrant County Area Food Bank to provide healthy weekend meals during the school year to children from food-insecure homes. All the food is shelf-stable and needs no refrigeration. Portions are child-size and ready to eat. The children are selected by school principals and guidance counselors. This program is available for ALL children within Erath County. Backpack Buddies of Erath County feeds over 300 children each weekend and relies on donations for 100% of their funding. The cost of food for one child for one weekend is \$6.

Special envelopes are available in the narthex and by the Mission of the Month bulletin board for free-will offerings. At the end of May, Faith will also donate 4% of our monthly church offerings to Backpack Buddies. If you are interested in volunteering, please email [bpberath@gmail.com](mailto:bpberath@gmail.com) or visit the Backpack Buddies facebook page.

**FAITH SCHOOL GRADUATION**  
**SUNDAY, MAY 17, 2026**  
**3:00PM**

Join us as we send off our little ones off to their next grand adventure!

We will also be saying goodbye and thank you to Lauren Johnson, our school director, for her many years of devoted service to Faith School!

**GRADUATE RECOGNITION**  
**Sunday, May 17, 2026**  
**9:00am**

*Congratulations to this year's graduates.  
We are so proud of you!*

**Stephenville High School**  
**Owen Bohannon**  
**C.J Spellmeier**

**Texas Wesleyan University**  
**Kathryn Cameron**  
Bachelor of Science in Elementary Education EC-6 ESL

**Tarleton State University**  
**Delaney Johnson**  
Bachelor of Science in Education



A ministry of care  
giving, relying on God  
to be the cure giver.

## Stephen Ministry

### BOUNDARIES

*Boundaries* is the book that's helped over 4 million people learn when to say yes and know how to say no in order to take control of their lives.

Does your life feel like it's out of control? Perhaps you feel like you have to say yes to everyone's requests. Maybe you find yourself readily taking responsibility for others' feelings and problems. Or perhaps you focus so much on being loving and unselfish that you've forgotten your own limits and limitations. Or maybe it's all of the above.

Drs. Henry Cloud and John Townsend help you learn when to say yes and know how to say no in order to take control of your life and set healthy, biblical boundaries with your spouse, children, friends, parents, co-workers, and even yourself.

Now updated and expanded for the digital age, this book continues to help millions of people around the world answer these tough questions:

- Can I set limits and still be a loving person?
- What are legitimate boundaries?
- How do I effectively manage my digital life so that it doesn't control me?
- What if someone is upset or hurt by my boundaries?
- How do I answer someone who wants my time, love, energy, or money?
- Why do I feel guilty or afraid when I consider setting boundaries?
- How do boundaries relate to mutual submission within marriage?
- Aren't boundaries selfish?

*We have just begun using this book for our Continuing Education. We have found it to be insightful and extremely helpful in seeing the God-given gift of boundaries. It's available in paperback and digitally.*

*We are thankful for each of you at Faith and pray for God to guide us all in our faith growth!*

Blessings,  
Sherre West and your Stephen Ministry Team

### Stephen Ministries 50th Anniversary Celebration & Learning Event

Founded in 1975, Stephen Ministries is celebrating its 50th year of equipping God's people for ministry! To commemorate this milestone and all that God has done over the past half a century, we're conducting a celebratory tour across the U.S. in 2025 and 2026.

These one-day events will feature Stephen Ministries' Founder and Executive Director, Dr. Kenneth Haugk, and other key teaching faculty from Stephen Ministries St. Louis. These events are open to all those whose lives have been touched by Stephen Ministries, including guests and anyone else passionate about making the church and the world a more caring place.

**Our Faith Lutheran Stephen Ministers are planning on attending this learning event on Saturday, August 29, 2026, at Prince of Peace Lutheran Church, 4000 Midway Rd, Carrollton, Texas. We hope that you will join us!**




**Church Council Officers & Board Members**  
**Proposed Roster for 2026-2027; Terms run from June 1 to May 31**

**Voting for only those in bold type**

<u>Officers:</u>		<u>Year term ends:</u>
President	Matt Hallgarth	2027
<b>Vice President</b>	<b>Everett Seider</b>	<b>2028</b>
Secretary	Leslie Hallgarth	2027
<b>Treasurer</b>		<b>2028</b>
Financial Secretary	Liz Cameron	2027
<b>Financial Secretary/Assistant</b>	<b>Pat Hardy</b>	<b>2028</b>
At-Large Council Member	Nelda Moore	2027
<b>At-Large Council Member</b>	<b>Troy Kimbrough</b>	<b>2028</b>
<u>Board of Elders – 3 year Term</u>		<u>Year terms ends:</u>
<b>Will Lansmon</b>		<b>2029</b>
<b>Ronnie Tate</b>		<b>2029</b>
Andy Burke		2027
Glen Cornman		2027
Richard Liedtke		2028
John Quade		2028
<u>Board of Education – 2 year term</u>		<u>Year terms ends:</u>
<b>Suzie Cornman</b>		<b>2028</b>
Bethany Espinoza		2027
Tisha Gray		2027
Emily Lansmon		2027
<b>Becca Luera</b>		<b>2028</b>
<u>Faith School Board – 2 year term</u>		<u>Year terms ends:</u>
<b>Sarah Osterloh</b>		<b>2028</b>
<b>Jennifer Bohannon</b>		<b>2028</b>
<b>Ann Soltau</b>		<b>2028</b>
Kristen Riola		2027
Director, Faith School Board		Ex-Officio
<b>Casey Parsons, Faith School Parent</b>		<b>2027 (Faith School parents serve 1-year terms)</b>
<u>Board of Stewardship – 2 year term</u>		<u>Year terms ends:</u>
<b>Lee Barlow</b>		<b>2028</b>
<b>Abigail Kortokrax</b>		<b>2028</b>
<b>Aidan Espinoza</b>		<b>2028</b>
Matt Bouquet		2027
Randy Bruno		2027
Kendi Maruska		2027
<b>Treasurer</b>		<b>2028 Ex-Officio</b>
<u>Board of Evangelism – 2 year term</u>		<u>Year terms ends:</u>
<b>Joyce Adams</b>		<b>2028</b>
<b>Rosanne Keilers</b>		<b>2028</b>
Sue Angerhofer		2027
Pat Hardy		2027
Sheila Small		2027
<u>Board of Trustees – 2 year term</u>		<u>Year term ends:</u>
Larry Angerhofer		2027
<b>Seth Chitester</b>		<b>2028</b>
<b>Brandon Bohannon</b>		<b>2028</b>
Burl Peiser		2027
<b>Dustin Riola</b>		<b>2028</b>
Everett Seider		2027
Jeff Stroebel		2027
Lisa Stroebel		2027

## National Day of Prayer

Go to the Chamber's website for a list of the day's activities.



**GLORIFY GOD**  
AMONG THE NATIONS

*The Prayer at Valley Forge*  
©1975 First Freedom Art Company

**SEEKING HIM**  
IN ALL GENERATIONS  
1 CHRONICLES 16:24 NASB  
**THURSDAY, MAY 7, 2026**

NATIONALDAYOFPRAYER.ORG

75<sup>TH</sup>  
NATIONAL DAY OF PRAYER

## Chronic Illness/Pain Support Group

1ST, 3RD, & 5TH THURSDAYS

6:00-7:30

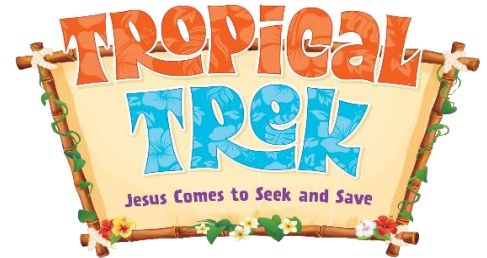
THE GATHERING PLACE

634 EAST RD, STEPHENVILLE, TX

To register call or email us at 254-595-3751  
info@thegathering-place.com



Save the Date



**VBS: July 19 - 23**

Sign-up sheets are posted on the church bulletin board for group leaders, station leaders and food.



**SUNDAY SCHOOL**

**WE HAVE A PLACE FOR YOU!**

Please join us each week for Sunday School!  
Sunday School for All Ages meets at 9:00am.



*Welcome*

New Members:

**Jason, Jasmine & Cullen Seider**

The Seiders are transfers from St. John, Hamilton



**7TH ANNUAL ERATH COUNTY PEACE OFFICERS MEMORIAL SERVICE**

PLEASE JOIN US AS WE HONOR ALL TEXAS PEACE OFFICERS WHO HAVE GIVEN THEIR LIVES IN THE LINE OF DUTY

★ ★ ★ ★ ★

7:00 PM  
WEDNESDAY, MAY 13, 2026  
BIRDSONG AMPITHEATER  
644 S GRAHAM AVE





“O give thanks to the Lord, call upon His name; make known his deeds among the peoples.”

*Psalm 105:1*

May is always a busy month, but it’s important to remember that we need to continue to give thanks to God for all He has done. We are thankful for the \$217.95 that you contributed to mites in April. We are also thankful to everyone who donated, helped and purchased items at the garage sale. We made \$1,270.44 in profit, and we were also able to donate leftover items to the Humane Society for their garage sale. We were also able to donate items to Restoration Advocates to help their clients in starting a new life. Some of the money from our sale will be added to our mites collection while some will go to help support local mission projects.

Our mission Grant focus this month is actually three related projects that provide help and counseling for families and children in crisis. The first is Healing Your Heart-faith based child counseling. Second, Not Alone-Gospel help for families in crisis. Third, Increased Access to Lutheran Counseling. These projects are supported by Lutheran Family Services and Concordia Counseling.

**Ladies Day Out** is coming up on **Saturday May 16<sup>th</sup>**. We will be traveling to Granbury for shopping, lunch and enjoying a presentation of “To Kill a Mockingbird” at the Granbury Opera House. Those who wish to carpool can meet at church at 10:00. The play is at 2:00. If you want to travel on your own, you can meet us there. Tickets for the play are \$39. Sign up early and please pay in advance so I can reserve our seats together. I will also make reservations for lunch for those who want to join us.

Blessings to all,  
Marlene Peiser



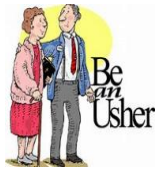
# The Bulletin Board

## Bulletin Folders (by Sunday)

1st Paula Hymer	4th Lynann Simpson
2nd Trudy Carlson	5th Pat Hardy
3rd Sue Angerhofer	



Serving in May:  
Emily Lansmon



## May Ushers

Ronnie Tate  
Open

Ushers are needed for the remainder of the church year. If you have questions, please speak with Lee Barlow.

## Lector Schedule (by date)

05/03	Lee Barlow
05/10	Billy Gray
05/17	Richard Liedtke
05/24	Bethany Espinoza
05/31	Leslie Hallgarth

**Grief Support** ~ Faith's grief support group meets the first Sunday of the month at El Corral Mexican Grill (next to McDonald's & across from Take 5 Oil Change) immediately following worship. If you have questions, please contact Ann Soltau at 254-592-9289.



In April, Faith's family center is only open the third Sunday from 2pm to 4pm for pickleball. No play on May 17.

## Memorial Day – May 25

Church offices and Faith School closed.

## Faith Lutheran's Elders

Glen Cornman, Head Elder;  
Andy Burke, Will Lansmon,  
Richard Liedtke, John Quade, Ronnie Tate  
(Elders' care lists are posted on the bulletin board in the narthex/lobby)

**Church Council meets every third Monday at 6:00pm in the Narthex/Lobby.**

## Altar Flowers for May

05/03	Sheila Small
05/10	Abigail Kortokrax
05/17	Ola Merck
05/24	Angerhofer Family
05/31	Cameron Family

(Sign-Up hangs on the wall beside church kitchen)

## FREE Notary Public Service

Cindy Stafford – (254) 592-6630



## Vocal Choir!

Rehearsals on May 7 and  
May 14 at 7:00pm.



## Reuse, Reduce, Recycle

~ NOTICE ~

Thanks to those who have provided plastic bags for Faith School use and aluminum cans for the youth group. Let's keep it up!

Your humble bag folder and can crusher!



Like us on facebook at  
FaithLutheranStephenville



If you have an upcoming event or photos of a recent event you want to be shared on Facebook, send to Emma Bouquet via Facebook Messenger, text, or email at [emmabouquet@yahoo.com](mailto:emmabouquet@yahoo.com). Be sure to include all pertinent information including a description.

## Church Information

3000 Senator Robert J Glasgow Loop  
Stephenville, Texas 76401  
254-968-2710

**Website:** [faithlutheranstephenville.com](http://faithlutheranstephenville.com)

**Email:** [church.office@faithlutheranstephenville.com](mailto:church.office@faithlutheranstephenville.com)

## Church Office Hours:

Monday – Thursday: 8:30am – 5:30pm  
(closed 12:30-1:30pm for lunch)  
Friday: 8:30am – 12:30pm

# May 2026

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<b>Pastor Jeffrey A. Lee</b> <u>Sunday Worship Schedule</u> 9:00am Sunday School for All Ages 10:15am Worship Service Young Adults – Fridays, 6-7:30pm in the family ctr Faith School Chapel – Tuesdays at 10:00am		<b>KEY</b> *Birthday **Anniversary Church Events School Events Building Rentals LWML Events			1 MOW~Stafford **Seth & Victoria Chitester	2
3 12:00pm Grief Support @ El Corral 2:00pm Pickleball~FFC	4 5:00pm Delta Kappa Gamma ~ Nrthx	5 3:00pm Board of Evangelisam~Library	6 *Rachel Anderson *Aria Dougherty *Abigail Kortokrax	7 National Day of Prayer 7:00pm Vocal Choir~ Sanctuary	8 *John Brock Smith ** David & Cindy Stafford MOW~Pack	9 **James & Ann Soltau
10 Mother's Day 11:30am Board of Trustees Mtng~Library 5:30pm Stephen Minister Supervision & Continuing Ed~Rm 6	11 5:30pm Faith School Board Mtng~Rm 9 6:00pm LWML Business Mtng~Room 6 6:30pm Board of Elders' Mtng~Library	12	13 *Rachel Moravec 10:30am Tate/Cornman Bible Study~Rm 6 5:15pm Board of Education ~ Libry 6:00pm Stewardship Board Mtng~Rm 6	14 7:00pm Vocal Choir~ Sanctuary	15 MOW~Keilers	16 **Jimmy & Ola Merck 9:00am Set up chairs & sound for Faith School graduation 10:00am LWML Ladies Day Out
17 LWML Mite Box Sunday *Leslie Hallgarth 9:00am Graduate Recognition Sunday 11:30am Voters' Assembly~Sanctuary 3:00pm Faith School Graduation	18 6:00pm Church Council Mtng~Narthex	19 *Bethany Espinoza *James Soltau **Ryan & Kristen Martin 8:15am Simpson Small Group~Field Trip	20	21 **Jeff & Deidre Johnson	22 *Pat Hardy *Tess Maruska MOW~Sparkman	23
24 *Dylan Carr **Will & Emily Lansmon 5:30pm Stephen Minister Supervision & Continuing Ed~Rm 6	25  *Joseph Gray *Floyd Richmond **Jeff & Lisa Stroebel	26	27 **Chet & Liz Cameron 10:30am Tate/Cornman Bible Study~Rm 6	28	29 MOW~Bruno	30 **Dylan & Tristen Carr
31 *Linda Fulton 4:00pm Church Picnic~ Strohmeyer's Home	Church Office & Faith School closed					