

Faith Lutheran Church
Member of First Faith Valley Lutheran Parish

305 1st Ave E
Balsam Lake WI 54810
715-485-3800
faithlutheran@lakeland.ws



2026

WEBSITE: faithlutheranbl.org

FACEBOOK: Faith Lutheran Church-Balsam Lake

PASTORAL SUPPORT: Pastor Tamra Harder 715-501-3681

Office Hours: Tuesdays 9am—Noon

Worship Schedule

8:00am Worship March at the Legion Building in Pine Park

Newsletter articles are due the 3rd Sunday of each month.

Reminder: The church service is not currently available to watch on Facebook.



FAITH EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH

First Faith Valley Lutheran Parish Corner

March, 2026

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

*"but the righteous live by their **faithfulness**" Habakkuk 2:4b *NRSVUE**

Sisters and Brothers in Christ,

Our 2026 **Lenten** Journey began February 18, 2026 with **Ash Wednesday** at **Luck Lutheran with Study/Worship** and goes thru April 3, 2026 **Good Friday**. We will be using **Pastor Adam Hamilton's** (UMC) Series - **The Way – Walking in Jesus's Footsteps**

We as a Parish joined this journey to support our Confirmation students on their Faith Journey. The Journey continues the following Wednesdays February 25, March 4, 11, 18 and 25, **5:15pm-6:15pm Soup Supper with Study/Worship 6:15-7:15pm+/-**. We as in past years each of our churches will provide one of the Suppers. **Maundy Thursday** April 2nd and April 3rd **Good Friday** will be at **Luck Lutheran** to finish the Lenten series. The four churches will join in providing the Soup Suppers prior to Worship. And our Confirmation Youth are strongly urged to attend Lenten Worship in fact they signed up to help. This way we can see them interact with the Luck Students and they would then be part of the Service.

As a Parish we continue to do God's Work with the help of Pastors Peter, Tamra and Neal. We continue to hold one another up in prayer, not only individuals but our Congregations as a whole. We are holding up Faith especially during this time as they make decisions following their fire in November.

We are uploading the new Parish Ministry Site Profile to make it easier for candidates see who we are and what we have to offer, not only as a Parish but as Congregations and the larger community.

As our Church wide theme is **"God's Work – Our Hands"**, I ask that we all think seriously about stepping up to do that work. I know that not everyone can lead Worship or such, but for everyone who leads there are 2-10 or more behind the scene making it all happen. It's those 10 or more people that can and do have the biggest witness as to the **Love** and **Hope** in Jesus Christ. They are who bring/draw people to our Congregations almost more than the Pastor.

Remember, Pastors are like shepherds, sometimes they are in front of us leading where we need to go and other times (most) they are behind us pushing us forward to that pasture. Thinking about that please consider this verse, **"but the righteous live by their **faithfulness**" Habakkuk 2:4b *NRSVUE*** This is the key verse of Habakkuk's book and is what God is teaching us from Genesis to Revelations. I hope my usual closing with give you pause to think this Lenten Season about what I have done and what I do matters.

In remembering and contemplating our own humanity it is **"God's Work-Our Hands"** to bring and tell of the **HOPE** and **Light** of Jesus Christ showing while **"Words Matter-Actions Matter More"**.

Yours in Our Eternal **Light** and **Hope**, Jesus Christ,

Steve Jensen, Pres. FFVLP

Theme for this month “Exodus from Slavery to Service”

The book of **Exodus** has been call by some “**The Design for Deliverance**” shows us how Moses came to lead the Israelites out of Egypt and Slavery to Freedom in God’s Service. Remember Moses was a reluctant leader and God had to prod him more than once much like many of us. The book of **Exodus** has 40 chapters that is one Chapter a day Monday through Friday.

The book of **Hebrews** has been called by some “**The Roll Call of Faith**”. It gives us how the Old Testament points to and confirms Jesus as the Messiah. **Hebrews** is one of the three Old Testament commentaries on a single Old Testament verse Habakkuk 2:4 which tells us that “**the just shall live by his faith**”(KJV) If you read one chapter a day you can read through **Hebrews** three times over the 40 days.

Do we see ourselves and our lives in these books?

In the February 9, 2009 readings in “Christ in Our Home” from 2 Kings 4:8-17, 32-37 and in Our Daily Bread from 1 Peter 2:9-17. I was reminded that we are being watched as to how in God’s Freedom we live our faith and calling to serve Him and those around us (our Stewardship).

In the 2 Kings passage even though Elisha and his servant did not say he was a man of God the Shunammite woman could see that he was. So when ever Elisha passes by the house she would invite him in to eat and rest with them she even had her husband add a room on for him. This was her Stewardship. All because of how Elisha lived his faith and calling to serve God. And when the son he promised her died, her only son, a son of barrenness and old age (Abraham & Sarah, Genesis 15:4 & 18:10-15, Zechariah & Elizabeth, Luke 1:13) she did not falter in her faith in the God of Elisha and her son was restored.

In the passage from 1 Peter 2:9-17 (NIV) the passage the Apostle Peter writes,

9But you are a chosen people, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, a people belonging to God, that you may declare the praises of him who called you out of darkness into his wonderful light. 10Once you were not a people, but now you are the people of God; once you had not received mercy, but now you have received mercy.

And ends; **17Show proper respect to everyone: Love the brotherhood of believers, fear God, honor the king.**

Anne Cetas the writer of the thought for the day in Our Daily Bread writes: “First Peter 2 reminds us that people are observing our lives (vv.11-12). To be good representatives of Jesus Christ, Peter teaches that we’re to be submissive to authority, to live an honorable life, to do good works, to honor all people, and to fear God (vv.12-17).

The testimony of our lives can give us opportunities to share the good news of Jesus. So, we might want to ask ourselves; **What do people see in me? Am I a good and faithful Steward of what God has given me?**

Help me to sing a **joyful** song
For those bowed down with care,
A song of **hope** and **freedom**
For those in dark despair. —Andrews

Do others see Jesus in you?

The Alter hangings are Purple from **February 18** until **March 29th Palm Sunday** when they change to Red, then White on **Easter Morning, Sunday April 5th**.

In remembering and contemplating our own humanity it is “**God’s Work-Our Hands**” to bring and tell of the **HOPE** and **Light** of Jesus Christ showing while “**Words Matter-Actions Matter More**”.

Yours in Our Eternal **Light** and **Hope**, Jesus Christ,

MARCH 2026

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1 8:00 Faith 9:30 First 11:00 North Valley Pastor Neal Communion	2	3 Office open 9a-12 9:00am Quilting	4 5:15 Dinner 6:15 Lenten Service Luck Lutheran	5	6	7 Set your clocks ahead before you go to bed!!
8 8:00 Faith 9:30 First 11:00 North Valley Pastor Peter 	9 6:30 Council Mtg	10 9:30 WELCA Office open 9a-12	11 5:15 Dinner 6:15 Lenten Service Luck Lutheran	12	13	14
15 8:00 Faith 9:30 First 11:00 North Valley Pastor Neal Communion	16	17 Office open 9a-12	18 5:15 Dinner 6:15 Lenten Service Luck Lutheran	19	20	21 10a-4p The Great Outdoors Through Faith Our Lady of the Lakes Catholic Church
22 8:00 Faith 9:30 First 11:00 North Valley Pastor Peter	23	24 Office open 9a-12	25 5:15 Dinner 6:15 Lenten Service Luck Lutheran	26	27	28
29 9:30 First Combined worship Pastor Neal Palm Sunday	30	31				

BIRTHDAYS

Bloch Mary 03/03
Hendrickson Dorene 03/08
Mares Eryn 03/09
Paulsen Emma 03/11

**WEDDING
ANNIVERSARIES**

Wolske, Roger and Sharon 03/17/1961
Tilton, Vern and Jean 03/24/1962

JANUARY \$\$\$FINANCIAL\$\$\$

Income ytd: \$3327.00
Expenses ytd: \$5860.87
Total ytd: \$-2511.97

Set clocks ahead on March 8th!



Fundraiser has outdoor/sporting theme

On Saturday, March 21st, a fundraiser event called "The Great Outdoors Through Faith" will take place at Our Lady of The Lakes Catholic Church. The event starts at 10 am and will conclude at 4 pm.

All hunters, fishermen are encouraged to bring in their mounts to display. Professional scorer, Jerry Lundee, will score any and all mounts that hunters would like to have scored. Entrys for the pope and young and Boone and Crockett will be available.

Tanner Wilson, Wilson Productions, will share lifetime hunting experiences, photographs of amazing scenery, and many stories of Archery hunting, bears, muskox, moose, caribou, deer, and many other animals. Don't miss his talk. He has amazing hunting stories to share!

We will have a kids duck calling contest and possibly other game calling contest.

Other events during the day include:

- Many different animal and fish mounts to observe
- Free will offer chili feed
- Silent auction
- Gun raffle
- DNR will be present with their wall of shame
- Bake Sale

Proceeds go to Feed My Neighbor Community Food Pantry

Please bring Bake sale items to Our Lady of The Lakes Friday afternoon or Saturday Morning

Help is needed:

- Friday—make chili
- Friday---haul a few mounts and set up
- Friday afternoon and early evening---set up display area for mounts
- Saturday---display mounts
- Saturday ----serve chili

If you would like to help please call or text Tim Mares 715-554-2174

The Great Outdoors through Faith
Our Lady of The Lakes Catholic Church
Balsam Lake
March 21th 10am - 4pm
All Taxidermy Welcome to be Displayed!
Scoring By: Jerry Lundee - Offical Scorer
Starting at 10:30am
Mount Drop off starts at 8am
Tanner Wilson Wilderness Presentation 1:30pm
Chili Feed 11:30am - 1:30pm
Free Will Offering
Silent Auction Kids Duck Calling Contest
Gun Raffle 11am
Bake Sale
Proceeds going to Feed My Neighbor Community Pantry
Questions Call: Tim Mares: 715-554-2174

Come enjoy free coffee, sweet treat and good company!

GATHERING GROUND

Tuesdays 9-10 AM

Location: Faith Lutheran Church
305 1st Ave. E, Balsam Lake, WI 54810

**RESUMING ON TUESDAY MARCH 3RD! JOIN US!
INVITE YOUR FRIENDS!!**

Join us at Luck Lutheran Church
for our 2026 Lenten Series:

THE WAY

Walking in the Footsteps of Jesus

Wednesday, February 18:

6:15PM Ash Wednesday
Worship with Holy Communion
and Imposition of Ashes
(no supper this night)

Mid-Week Wednesday Schedule

February 25 – March 25:

5:15PM Supper
6:15PM Worship
7:15PM Choir Practice

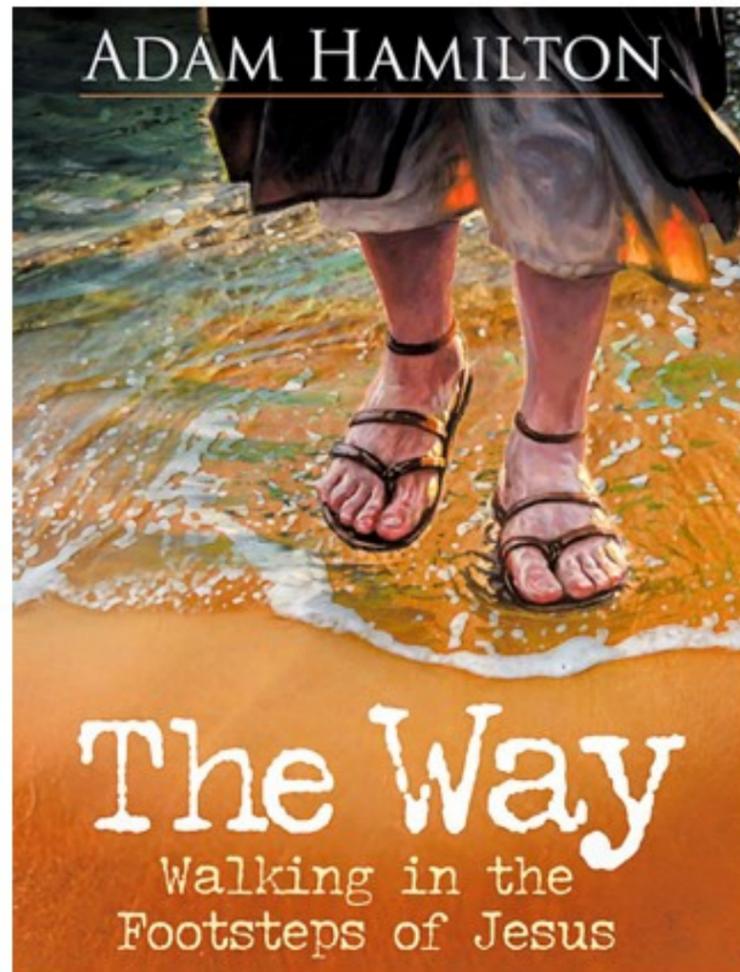
February 25 Week One:
Baptism and Temptation

March 4 Week Two:
Jesus' Healing Ministry

March 11 Week Three:
Calming the Storm

March 18 Week Four:
Sinners, Outcasts, & the Poor

March 25 Week Five:
The Final Week



QUILTING NEWS



We will resume our monthly quilting mornings in March. We meet in the parsonage on the 1st Tuesday of the month at 9:00am. Please consider joining us for fun and fellowship.

~Caroline Lenselink

WELCA NEWS



WELCA meeting will be held the 2nd Tuesday (March 10th) at 9:30 in the parsonage. We use the Lutheran Gather Magazine for our Bible Study and the first two lessons this year have focused on How to Pray. In our country with many religions, praying varies greatly. Sunday when Pastor Peter finished his sermon I almost wanted to shout "Amen" but instead I the very Lutheran thing of nodding my head in agreement.

~Caroline Lenselink

MARCH WORSHIP SCHEDULE

8:00AM FAITH
(generally at the Legion Building at Pine Park, subject
to availability)
9:30 AM FIRST
11:00 AM NORTH VALLEY

Church Office Hours!
Laurene will be in the
office on Tuesdays
from 9am-12pm.