



Time After Pentecost
8:00 am worship service

FAITH LUTHERAN CHURCH | Inviting, Growing, Serving...

Becoming fully devoted followers of Jesus Christ.

September 27, 2026

WELCOME TO WORSHIP

Faith is a growing faith community in the Aurora area. We're people just like you, who are hungry to know God better. We're looking for the answers to life's tough questions. We're struggling to be better parents, spouses, friends, and neighbors. We don't have all the answers but we're growing as we go.

Faith is a great place to find healing for broken hearts and broken lives. In every Sunday message you'll learn new skills and attitudes to help you live life with the kind of joy that God intends for us. You'll also meet people who are also growing in their journey through the joys and challenges of life. You'll find lots of "walking partners" for your journey here. There are no closed doors at Faith, just lots of opportunities to grow in Christ, friendship, and love.

Faith is a church with a great vision; however, accomplishing a great vision requires the participation of many great people like you. There's a place in our vision for you to use your unique gifts and talents.

CURRENT WORSHIP SERIES: ALL YOU NEED IS LOVE

Love. It's a word we use for everything—family, friends, food, even a favorite team. But what if we've been missing its true meaning all along? In a world full of noise, division, and fleeting emotions, there's a kind of love that never fails. It's not shallow. It's not self-serving. It's not temporary. It's the kind of love that transforms relationships, reshapes priorities, and reveals the very heart of God. Join us for a powerful new sermon series through 1 Corinthians 13 as we rediscover what love really is—and what it was always meant to be. Because when everything else fades... love remains.

The Gathering

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

OPENING HYMN

Sing to the Lord of Harvest | ELW #694

please stand



1 Sing to the Lord of har - vest your songs of love and praise;
2 God makes the clouds drop fat - ness, the des - erts bloom and spring,
3 Bring to this sa - cred al - tar the gifts his good-ness gave,



with joy - ful hearts and voic - es your al - le - lu - ias raise;
the hills leap up in glad - ness, the val - leys laugh and sing,
the gold - en sheaves of har - vest, the souls Christ died to save.



by him the roll - ing sea - sons in fruit - ful or - der move;
God fills them with his full - ness, all things with large in - crease,
Your hearts lay down be - fore him when at his feet you fall,



sing to the Lord of har - vest a joy - ous song of love,
and crowns the year with good - ness, with plen - ty and with peace,
and with your lives a - dore him who gave his life for all.

GREETING

P: The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God,
and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

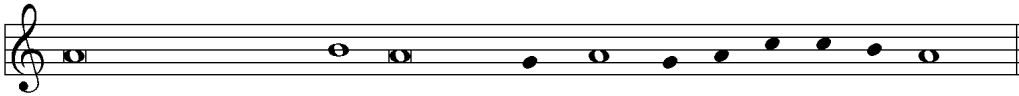
C: **And also with you.**

KYRIE



A In peace, let us pray to the Lord.

G Lord, have mer - cy.



A For the peace from a- bove, and for our sal- vation, let us pray to the Lord.



G Lord, have mer - cy.



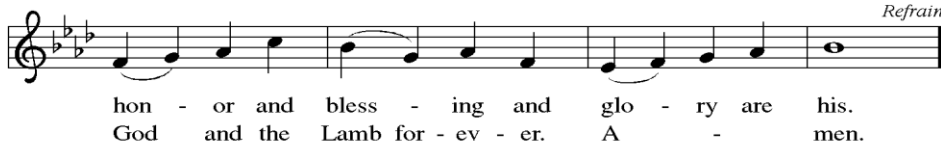
A For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the Church of God,



and for the u - ni - ty of all, let us pray to the Lord.



G Lord, have mer - cy.



PRAYER OF THE DAY

P: Let us pray,

God of love, giver of life, you know our frailties and failings. Give us your grace to overcome them, keep us from those things that harm us, and guide us in the way of salvation, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

The Word

FIRST READING

Ezekiel 18:1-4, 25-32

The word of the Lord came to me: What do you mean by repeating this proverb concerning the land of Israel, “The parents have eaten sour grapes, and the children’s teeth are set on edge”? As I live, says the Lord God, this proverb shall no more be used by you in Israel. Know that all lives are mine; the life of the parent as well as the life of the child is mine: it is only the person who sins who shall die.

Yet you say, “The way of the Lord is unfair.” Hear now, O house of Israel: Is my way unfair? Is it not your ways that are unfair? When the righteous turn away from their righteousness and commit iniquity, they shall die for it; for the iniquity that they have committed, they shall die. Again, when the wicked turn away from the wickedness they have committed and do what is lawful and right, they shall save their life. Because they considered and turned away from all the transgressions that they had committed, they shall surely live; they shall not die. Yet the house of Israel says, “The way of the Lord is unfair.” O house of Israel, are my ways unfair? Is it not your ways that are unfair?

Therefore I will judge you, O house of Israel, all of you according to your ways, says the Lord God. Repent and turn from all your transgressions; otherwise iniquity will be your ruin. Cast away from you all the transgressions that you have committed against me, and get yourselves a new heart and a new spirit! Why will you die, O house of Israel? For I have no pleasure in the death of anyone, says the Lord God. Turn, then, and live.

SECOND READING

1 Corinthians 13:1-8

If I speak in the tongues of humans and of angels but do not have love, I am a noisy gong or a clanging cymbal. And if I have prophetic powers and understand all mysteries and all knowledge and if I have all faith so as to remove mountains but do not have love, I am nothing. If I give away all my possessions and if I hand over my body so that I may boast but do not have love, I gain nothing.

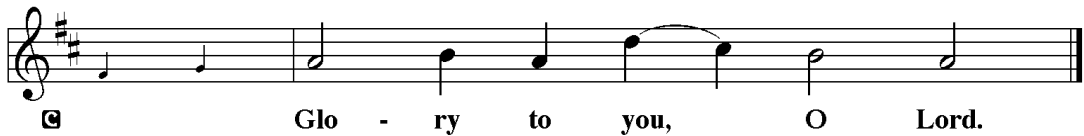
Love is patient; love is kind; love is not envious or boastful or arrogant or rude. It does not insist on its own way; it is not irritable; it keeps no record of wrongs; it does not rejoice in wrongdoing but rejoices in the truth. It bears all things, believes all things, hopes all things, endures all things.

Love never ends.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION *please stand*



P: The Holy Gospel according to Matthew, the 21st chapter.



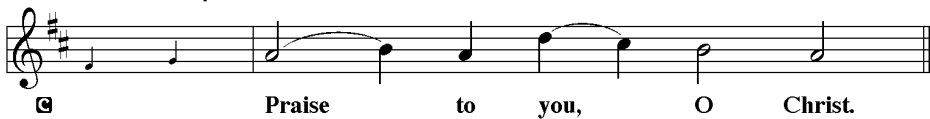
GOSPEL

Matthew 21:23-32

When he entered the temple, the chief priests and the elders of the people came to him as he was teaching and said, “By what authority are you doing these things, and who gave you this authority?” Jesus said to them, “I will also ask you one question; if you tell me the answer, then I will also tell you by what authority I do these things. Did the baptism of John come from heaven, or was it of human origin?” And they argued with one another, “If we say, ‘From heaven,’ he will say to us, ‘Why, then, did you not believe him?’ But if we say, ‘Of human origin,’ we are afraid of the crowd, for all regard John as a prophet.” So they answered Jesus, “We do not know.” And he said to them, “Neither will I tell you by what authority I am doing these things.

“What do you think? A man had two sons; he went to the first and said, ‘Son, go and work in the vineyard today.’ He answered, ‘I will not,’ but later he changed his mind and went. The father went to the second and said the same, and he answered, ‘I go, sir,’ but he did not go. Which of the two did the will of his father?” They said, “The first.” Jesus said to them, “Truly I tell you, the tax collectors and the prostitutes are going into the kingdom of God ahead of you. For John came to you in the way of righteousness, and you did not believe him, but the tax collectors and the prostitutes believed him, and even after you saw it you did not change your minds and believe him.

P: The Gospel of the Lord.



MESSAGE

Love is Not Irritable | Pastor Rob

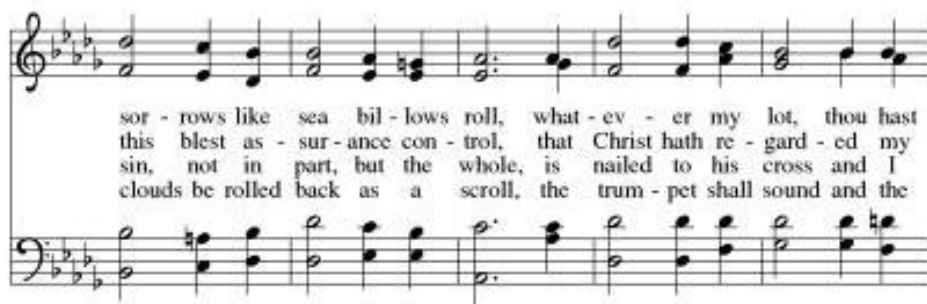
HYMN OF THE DAY

When Peace like a River | ELW #785

please stand



1 When peace like a riv - er at - tend - eth my way, when
2 Though Sa - tan should buf - fet, though tri - als should come, let
3 He lives—oh, the bliss of this glo - ri - ous thought; my
4 Lord, has - ten the day when our faith shall be sight, the



sor - rows like sea bil - lows roll, what - ev - er my lot, thou hast
this blest as - sur - ance con - trol, that Christ hath re - gard - ed my
sin, not in part, but the whole, is nailed to his cross and I
clouds be rolled back as a scroll, the trum - pet shall sound and the



taught me to say, it is well, it is well with my soul.
help - less es - tate, and hath shed his own blood for my soul.
bear it no more. Praise the Lord, praise the Lord, O my soul!
Lord shall de - scend; e - ven so it is well with my soul.



Refrain
It is well with my soul, it is well, it is well with my soul.
It is well with my soul,

PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH

- A: Reminded of God's gracious and abundant love, we offer our prayers, confident that God hears us.
- A: Center your church in humility as we strive to follow in your way. Help us listen to the cries of those who have been unfairly hurt by the church and dare to name difficult truths. Show all your love. Hear us, O God.
- C: Your mercy is great.**
- A: Inspire all in positions of authority to act honorably. Remind them of their call to use their authority for the sake of the common good. Give them the gift of humility. Hear us, O God.
- C: Your mercy is great.**
- A: Comfort those who come before you in fear and trembling. Calm troubled hearts with your forgiveness. Help all those in need. Grant us your salvation. Hear us, O God.
- C: Your mercy is great.**
- A: Change this congregation's heart when we say no to your call. Open us to courageous learning and service in our community, especially in new or challenging places. Hear us, O God.
- C: Your mercy is great.**
- P: Gracious and loving God, we pray for the family and friends of Faith... Hear us, O God.
- C: Your mercy is great.**
- P: Grant the prayers we have offered, what we have forgotten to ask, and whatever else you see that we need. We ask this in Jesus' name.
- C: Amen.**

The Meal

PEACE

- P: The peace of the Lord be with you always.
- C: And also with you.**

OFFERING

OFFERING RESPONSE *please stand*



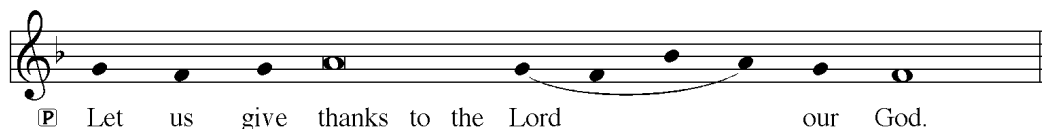
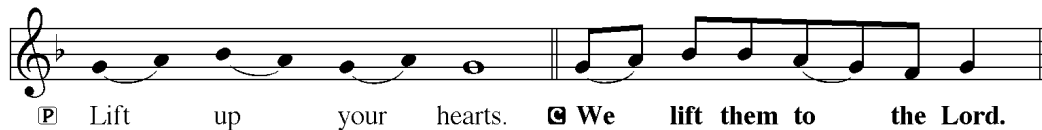
Let the vine - yards be fruit - ful, Lord, and fill to the brim our
cup of bless - ing. Gath - er a har - vest from the
seeds that were sown, that we may be fed with the bread of life.
Gath - er the hopes and the dreams of all; u - nite them with the
prayers we of - fer now. Grace our ta - ble with your
pres - ence, and give us a fore - taste of the feast to come.

OFFERTORY PRAYER

A: God of creation,
you send rain and the earth springs forth abundantly.
All blessings are from you;
make us generous with what we have.
Use our gifts, our abilities, and our hearts
in service to you and in love to our neighbors,
today and always.

C: **Amen.**

GREAT THANKSGIVING



P: It is indeed right and salutary . . .we praise your name and join their unending hymn:



PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

P: In the night in which he was betrayed, our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks; broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying: Take and eat; this is my body, given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me.

Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it for all to drink, saying: This cup is the new covenant in my blood, shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin. Do this for the remembrance of me.

LORD'S PRAYER

**Our Father, who art in heaven,
hallowed be thy name,
thy kingdom come,
thy will be done,
on earth as it is in heaven.**

**Give us this day our daily bread;
and forgive us our trespasses,
as we forgive those
who trespass against us;
and lead us not into temptation,
but deliver us from evil.**

**For thine is the kingdom,
and the power, and the glory,
forever and ever. Amen**

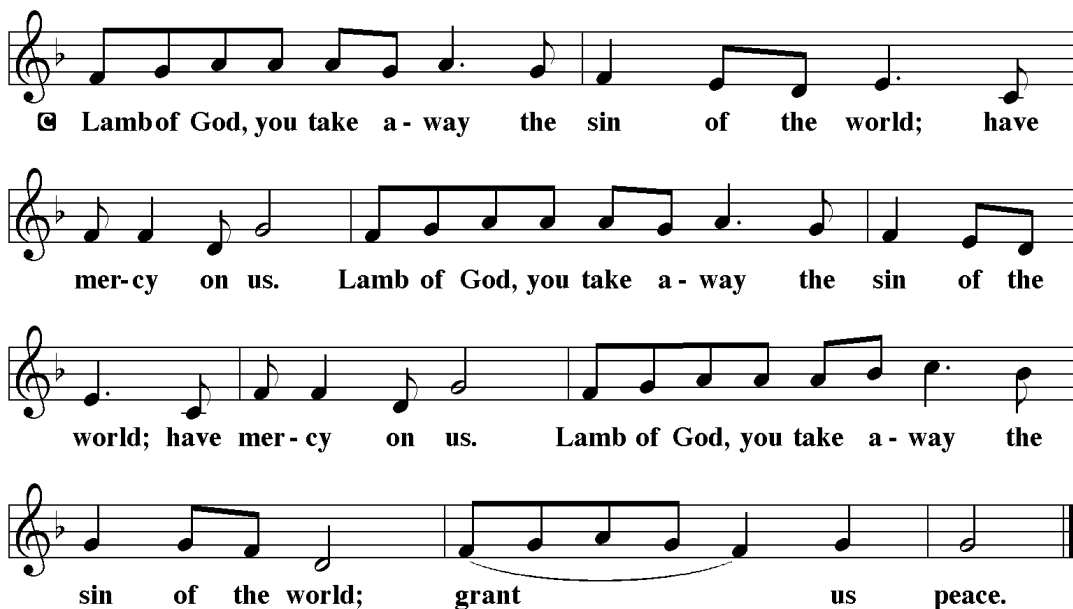
INVITATION TO COMMUNION

P: Christ invites you to this table.
All who are thirsty, all who are hungry, come!
C: **Thanks be to God.**

COMMUNION DISTRIBUTION

AN INVITATION

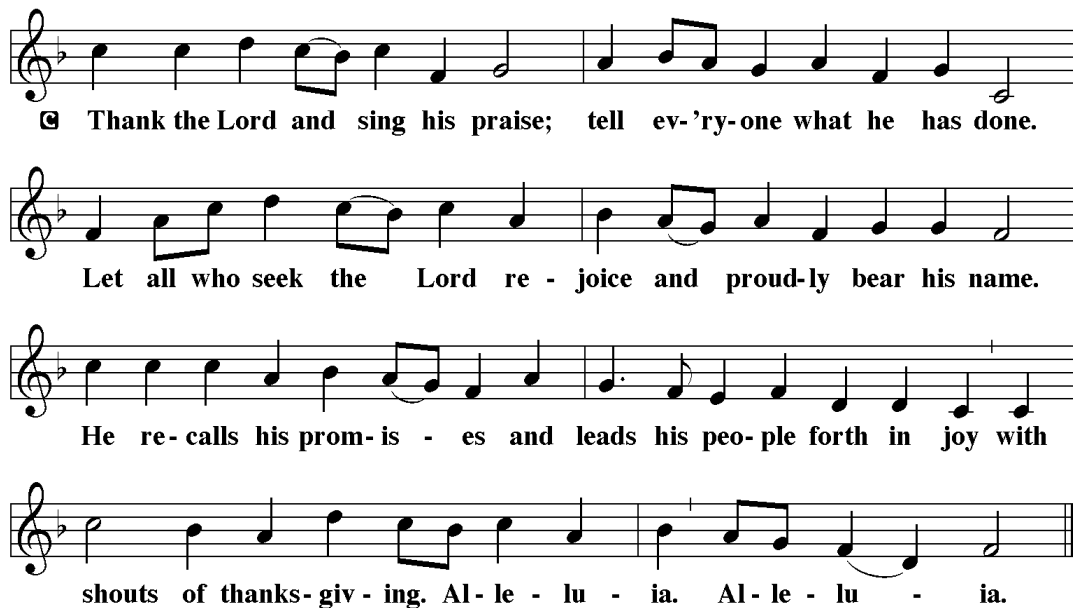
We invite you to share in Holy Communion this morning, regardless of your church background or lack thereof. We believe that God is present in the bread and wine as it becomes the body and blood of Jesus Christ and that this presence is a gift of grace in the lives of those who receive it. All are welcomed to the table enjoy this gift of God's love and mercy. Apple/Grape juice is in the center of the communion tray. Gluten free wafers available at the usher stand, please ask an usher to assist you.



Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the world; have
mer-cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the
world; have mer-cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a - way the
sin of the world; grant us peace.

P: The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in His grace.

C: **Amen.**



Thank the Lord and sing his praise; tell ev-'ry-one what he has done.
Let all who seek the Lord re - jice and proud-ly bear his name.
He re-calls his prom-is - es and leads his peo-ple forth in joy with
shouts of thanks-giv - ing. Al - le - lu - ia. Al - le - lu - ia.

POST-COMMUNION PRAYER

please stand

A: Sustaining God,
with this bread and cup,
you nourish us with mercy and abundant life.
By your Spirit, send us from this table to serve a needy world.
Make us living signs of your liberation, healing, and love,
following the way of Jesus, in whose name we pray.

C: **Amen**

The Sending

BLESSING

P: The God of love draw you into full accord and one mind,
in the body of Christ Jesus.

C: **Amen.**

P: The God of hope grant you strength and joy in all circumstances
through the interceding of the Spirit.

C: **Amen.**

P: The God of grace † bless you now and forever.

C: **Amen.**

CLOSING HYMN

This Is My Father's World | ELW #824

please stand



1 This is my Fa-ther's world, and to my lis-t'ning ears all
2 This is my Fa-ther's world; the birds their car-ols raise; the
3 This is my Fa-ther's world; oh, let me not for-get that,



na-ture sings, and round me rings the mu-sic of the spheres.
morn-ing light, the fil-y white, de-clare their mak-er's praise.
though the wrong seems oft so strong, God is the rul-er yet.



This is my Fa-ther's world; I rest me in the thought of
This is my Fa-ther's world; he shines in all that's fair. In the
This is my Fa-ther's world; why should my heart be sad? The



rocks and trees, of skies and seas; his hand the won-ders wrought.
rus-ting grass I hear him pass; he speaks to me ev-ry-where.
Lord is king, let heav-en ring; God reigns, let earth be glad!

DISMISSAL

P: Go out in joy. Be led forth in peace.

C: Thanks be to God.

NEWS & ANNOUNCEMENTS

Welcome to Faith!

We are so glad that you have chosen to worship with us today! Have questions about Faith? Wondering how to get connected or get more involved? We'd love to help. No matter where you are in life or how many times you've visited, we're here to guide you towards your next best step. Stop by the welcome center located near the main entrance. If this is your first time at Faith, let us know, we've got a special gift just for you!

MENS COMMUNITY GROUP

Sat 9/26 | 8:00 AM

Meets fireside at Faith, the 2nd and 4th Saturdays of the month.

In addition to coffee, great conversation, and fellowship, we typically are engaged in a spiritual study topic or video discussion. Come join us!

ADULT ONLINE STUDY GROUP

Tues 9/29 | 7:15 PM

Drive Through History: Temple, Cross and the Empty Tomb

In a style all his own, Dave Stotts—host and editor of Drive Thru History—speeds through the ancient world of the Bible, giving you a fast-paced encounter with the people, places, and events that have shaped our world and the Christian faith.

In this 3-week study, the group will be following and discussing Dave's journey from Jerusalem to Calvary.

NEXT

Sun 10/4 | 9:00 & 10:30 AM

If you've ever wondered how to get involved at Faith, or how to take the next step, don't worry. We've created a simple next step for you. It's a small gathering called NEXT. This informal gathering lasts only about 20 minutes after services and will provide you an overview of our mission, strategy, and environments to help you determine your best next step for continuing your faith journey. Meets fireside.

REVOLUTION

Sun 10/4, 10/18 | 5:00 PM

On Sunday Nights at Faith, we've created an event that attracts **middle & high school students just like you**. After all, we figure you want to be wherever your friends are. We make this time as fun and relevant as we possibly can. The goal is for you to leave feeling energized to go out there and tackle another week! Meets 1st and 3rd Sundays in the auditorium. Register online- discoveringfaith.com

BLESSING OF THE ANIMALS

Sun 10/4 | 2:00 PM

From kittens to chickens, guppies to puppies, join us for our blessing of all animals great and small. This free event celebrating the Feast of St. Francis is open to the entire community, so come and enjoy this soon to be annual tradition. A short service will be led by Pastor Rob followed by individual pet blessings. Refreshments for pets and their humans will be served. In the event of inclement weather, the blessing will take place in the café. We will also be collecting donations for the Naperville Area Humane Society. Link below for the shelter's wish list. So, bring your pets to be blessed and help us to bless other animals who are in need. <https://www.naperhumane.org/wish-list>

ADULT ONLINE STUDY GROUP

Begins 10/6 | 7:15 PM

Epic of Eden

The Old Testament can feel like a puzzle. Richter's substantive and profoundly spiritual exploration shows how the pieces fit together and how accessible the narrative truly is! We plan to begin our next study on October 6. This will be a twelve week study.

A MOMENT FOR MOM

Sat 10/10 | 10:00 AM

We welcome you to our moms group for moms just like you! We are hosting moms of children ages 0-10 to come together for a time of learning, laughter, and treats. Take a moment to connect with other moms, while enjoying a yummy breakfast, hearing from a knowledgeable speaker on topics related to parenting, and build your mom village along the way. Each Session is \$6, Childcare is \$8

Guest Speaker: Joseph Agostinelli, PT

Where We Hold Our Stress and Why It Matters, Jaw and Neck Techniques to Release Tension
Register online www.discoveringfaith.com

PROJECT 3:23 GAME ON!

Sat 10/10 | 1:00 PM

Come hang out. Meet some guys. Play a few games. Game On is the first gathering of Project 3:23, a new monthly group for men in their 20s, 30s, and 40s. We're keeping the first one simple and casual—just a chance to meet some new guys, relax, have some fun, and start building relationships. We'll play a few games, with Priorities at the center of the afternoon. It's an easy, fun way to learn what matters to one another and spark some genuine conversation along the way. This isn't a Bible study, a formal meeting, or another big commitment. It's simply a place for guys to show up, hang out, and get to know each other. Come as you are. No experience necessary.

BUNCO NIGHT

Sat 10/10 | 5:00 PM

Come join us for our annual Bunco Night at Faith. Fun, friendship and a spirited game night. Cost is \$5/person and bring a dish to share. BYOB

MEMBERSHIP @ FAITH

Mon 10/12 | 6:30 PM

This course invites participants to explore the vision, mission and values of Faith, as well as a broad overview of the Christian faith from a Lutheran perspective. Participants will also discover their unique gifts and how they can use them in serving others. This course is open to everyone and is expected of those who wish to become members at Faith! Register online or at the welcome center.

MONDAY PM WOMENS BIBLE STUDY

Mon 10/12 | 7:15 PM

The Silent Echo

When God really wants to get your attention, he doesn't just say something once. He echoes. He speaks through a Sunday sermon, a chance conversation with a friend the next day, even a random email. The same theme, idea, impression or lesson will repeat itself in surprising and unexpected ways until you realize that maybe, just maybe God is at work. Come join us on Monday nights for a discussion of Margaret Feinberg's book. The bible study will meet October 12 & 26; November 9 & 23; December 7 & 21

HESED HOUSE

Weds 10/21 | 6:30 PM

Faith's next serving opportunity at Hased House is August 19. We will need roughly 5 to 10 volunteers to help with meal setup, serving and cleanup. Volunteers can conveniently signup online or at the welcome center. All that's needed is a serving heart. Sign up today! If you have questions about Faith's Hased House ministry, please reach out to the ministry team at hasedhouse@discoveringfaith.com.

TUESDAY AM WOMENS BIBLE STUDY

Tuesdays | 9:00 AM

The Tuesday Morning Women's Bible Study have resumed their weekly meetings at the church at 9:00 a.m. This fall the group is reading *Jesus In Me ~ Experiencing the Holy Spirit as a Constant Companion* by Anne Graham Lotz.

Copies of the book can be purchased at the meeting for \$11.00. The book is also available on Amazon in Kindle and Audiobook formats. All women of Faith and their friends are welcome and encouraged to attend. We would love to have you join us! For additional information contact Sue Boozell at sue.boozell@discoveringfaith.com.

FAITHFUL FOUNDATIONS CAMPAIGN

Our 2026 Faithful Foundations campaign aims to raise \$75,000 for Faith. Our building and grounds are 18 years old and need some tender loving care.

The goal for this fundraising campaign is to:

- Repair and Upgrade our HVAC units.
- Improve our parking lot.
- Upgrades to our building's interior painting, furniture, light fixtures and improvements to our auditorium.
- Landscaping around the church.
- Signage at the parking lot entrance.

Current total raised \$44,648!

Living Generously (through August 2026)

Our mission is simple. Invite people to discover the new life that can be found in Jesus Christ. Because of your financial generosity, lives are being changed. Our budgeted resource needs to live out our mission are not currently fully funded. We would like to invite you to prayerfully consider how you can respond so that together we can enhance our mission impact in our community and beyond. Thank you for living generously.

YTD Revenue: \$310,625

YTD Expenses: \$322,293

YTD Budget: \$304,800

Note - YTD expenses include the auditorium project and parking lot sealing.

YTD revenue includes offsetting special donations to cover the cost of those projects.

Giving at Faith! As Easy as Click & Give



As followers of Jesus Christ, we embrace irrational generosity. We know it changes lives—ours and the people we're reaching. At Faith, taking action on your generosity is simple. Just scan the QR code with your camera and give. Simple, safe, and secure.

Pastor Rob Douglas
DISCOVERINGFAITH.COM

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