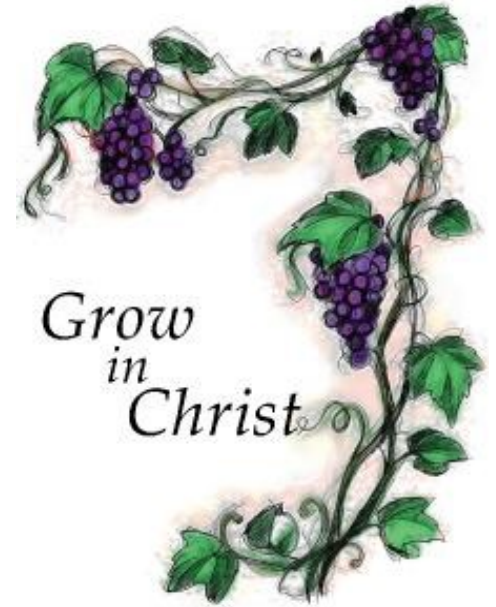


The Grape Vine

*Faith Lutheran Church
Lake Hanska Lutheran Church*

August 2026

Happenings in & around the Parish



MORE
Vacation Bible School
Pictures and information
will be in the
September newsletter



Enter
through the
vine
covered
path
into the
jungle
where you
will explore
the nature
of God!



Join Us For Worship!

If you are searching for a church home or are currently a member,
we want to extend a warm welcome to you.

Faith & Lake Hanska observe the "Open" communion policy -
for all people in Christ are welcome at our Lord's Table.

It seems like summer just arrived and now we're entering what some call the "dog days" of summer, The time when the southern lakes of Minnesota turn green, cottonwood trees send their snowflakes all over, and in years past the weather turned hot and then cooler as we approached September. Really the dog days are from July 3 through August 11! The phrase traces back to ancient Greek and Roman astrology. They believed that the star Sirius – the Dog Star – rose alongside the sun, and its immense brightness combined with the sun's heat caused the sweltering weather. But, like many things, what was the trend in the past is now changed. Mid July was a hot week of 90+ each day – and who knows what the climate will do in the future.

Our church year also goes through a stretch that one might call "dog days." Things tend to slow down in the summertime – confirmation awaits the fall, JAM awaits the new school year, VBS has ended and August just seems like a bridge to get us to the fall. Everyone takes as much advantage as they can to the warm Minnesota before the cold Minnesota strikes. And all of this is well and good as long as we don't forget to thank the God who created us and the wonderful nature around us.

The gospel texts for August begin to point us to the events of Advent, Christmas, and ultimately Lent and Easter. They begin with water – the water of life that we receive from Jesus. Then nature takes center stage as we once again witness Jesus calming the storm on the Sea of Galilee. And after feeling the effects of the storm – we hear of the great mercy of Jesus. On the 23rd Mary will be speaking – and I do not know her approach – but the text for the day has to do with the building of Christ's church on a rock – the one called Peter. And we end the month on a theme of liberation! That theme alone points us ahead to the liberation we will find on the death and resurrection of our Lord next Easter season.

Like everything in life, we have to sometimes go through a few potholes in the road to get to the smoother surfaces. The dog days of summer are necessary to get us to the autumn season. With autumn comes cooler temps, fall sports, and harvest for most of us in Minnesota. As avid as we are about our sports in the fall, let us be equally avid about harvesting the seeds that God has sown among us and in ourselves.

Just one of you in Christ - Ralph

SCRIPTURE READINGS FOR AUGUST

DATE	FIRST READING	PSALM	SECOND READING	GOSPEL
Sunday, August 2 10 th Sunday after Pentecost	Isaiah 55:1-5	145: 8-9, 14-21	Romans 9:1-5	Matthew 14:13-21
Sunday, August 9 11 th Sunday after Pentecost	1 Kings 19:9-18	85:8-13	Romans 10:5-15	Matthew 14:22-33
Sunday, August 16 12 th Sunday after Pentecost	Isaiah 56:1, 6-8	67	Romans 11:1-2a, 29-21	Matthew 15:[10-20] 21-28
Sunday, August 23 13 th Sunday after Pentecost	Isaiah 51:1-6	138	Romans 12:13-20	Matthew 16:13-20
Sunday, August 30 14 th Sunday after Pentecost	Jeremiah 15:15-21	26:1-8	Romans 12:9-21	Matthew 16:21-28

Church Councils

Faith

Lori Pietsch

Randy Gustafson

Stacy Reed

Randy Gustafson, Arlo Feder

Jane Piepgras, Kathy Guyer

Ben Odegard, Chad Becker,

Pam Bocock, Stacy Reed

Lori Pietsch, Cindy Lehman,

Sherri Gustafson, Mary Feder

Steph Odegard, Tammy Krebs,

Julia Young, Patty Young

President

Vice President

Secretary

Financial Secretary

Treasurer

Trustees

Deacons

Board of Education

WELCA Coordinator Bonnie Lilleodden

BOLD NAMES = Joint Executive Board

Lake Hanska

Melissa Engelhart

Jim Lilleodden

Cheryl Doe

Bonnie Lilleodden

Beth Kral

Brian Kjelshus,

Norman Skarphol

Pam Kjelshus,

(Position Open)



Lake Hanska

September - TBD

Faith

Thursday, August 10th, 7:00 PM

Vital Statistics

Attendance

Offering

Faith

June 21	22	\$ 819.00
June 28	26	\$ 705.00
July 5 @ LH Cty Park	12/60	\$ 520.00
July 12 Joint @ Faith	35	\$ 2,844.00

Lake Hanska

June 21	19	\$ 690.00
June 28	19	\$ 580.00
July 5 @ LH Cty Park	60	\$ 1,290.00
July 12 Joint @ Faith		\$

Ruth Bible Study

Monday, August 17th

9:00 AM

Lake Crystal

American Legion

Men's Morning Out

Saturday, August 8th, 22nd

8:30 AM

Dean Neumann's



Do you wish to receive your Grapevine by e-mail?

If so, please contact Joyce at faithofficemadelia@gmail.com

OR

the Parish Office at

507-642-8500

and give her

your email address.

Faith & Lincoln Cemetery's

Perpetual care and maintenance fees are not part of the church budget. Both cemeteries are in need of donations to maintain their dignity and beauty.

Please consider making a donation ~ any amount will be appreciated with a check made out to either Faith Cemetery or Lincoln Cemetery. (Checks may be sent to Faith Lutheran)

Feel free to pass this information on!

Thank you and God's Blessings!

Faith/Lincoln Cemetery Board

Social Media for our Churches

Faith:

Website: www.faithlutheranmadelia.org

Facebook.com/FaithLutheranMadelia

Lake Hanska:

Facebook.com/

LakeHanskaLutheranChurch

Lake Hanska members (and guests) you will be able to check on any activities that will be going on at your church by looking at the Faith website.

Happenings in the Parish recently

Funerals

Baptisms 7/5 Jase Steven Chute (LH)

Weddings



CONFIRMATION CORNER ~

Looking forward to September!

Watch your mail for information.

Faith Lutheran Church Council Minutes-July 9, 2026

Attending council members: President - Lori Pietsch, Vice President - Randy Gustafson, S.A.M. - Ralph Flitter, Treasurer - Jane Piepgras, Kathy Guyer, Deacons - Sherri Gustafson, Mary Feder, Cindy Lehman, Trustees - Chad Becker, Ben Odegard, BOE - Steph Odegard, Julia Young, Patti Young

Lori Pietsch called the meeting to order - Ralph Flitter opened the meeting with a prayer.

Secretary's Report: Reviewed May minutes as printed in the newsletter.

Treasurer's Report: June expenses were \$10,648.26 and receipts \$8,876.13.

Trustees Report: Satisfied where the budget is mid-year. Reported an increase in Centerpoint Energy monthly budget billing \$396 to \$592. Church CD was renewed for 5 months at an interest rate of 3.65. Dumpster has been requested for the week of VBS. Discussed budgeting more dollars for Synod Assembly costs. Will meet with Ryan Visser, Watonwan Emergency Management & Safety Director, who will assist with plans to mitigate disasters that could possibly affect our church. Will contact Elite Electrical for repairs to the church bell.

Deacon's Report: Deacons will cover Altar Guild for the months of July and August. Ralph has requested that intinction be offered as a communion option one communion Sunday in August.

Board of Ed: The 2027 Tri-Annual Youth Gathering will be held in Minneapolis June 28-July 2nd. All interested youth grades 8-12 are welcome to attend. Informational letters will be sent to parents. JAM will start the 2nd week of September, an informational letter will be distributed at VBS.

S.A.M. Report: For the month of June; Ralph officiated 3 baptisms at Faith and one wedding at Lake Hanska. Attended the Synod Assembly where he was officially commissioned as a Synod Authorized Minister (S.A.M.) Will be participating in Hanska's 125th Community Anniversary church service on August 23rd. No services at Lake Hanska that day, Mya Hanson will conduct worship services at Faith.

Motion to approve all reports was made by Ben Odegard and seconded by Julia Young.

Old Business: Peace of the Prairie service at Faith July 12th no services at Lake Hanska. September 27th- Bible Service, October 27-New Member Service. The new table cart was delivered for stacking tables.

New Business: Carol Meier "Church Musician's Retreat" will be held September 24-26 in Windom. Cost will be \$300. Motion was made by Sherri Gustafson and seconded by Patti Young to have Audrey Anderson attend. We are currently looking for a new church custodian. Confirmation will resume September 30th, 16 students have registered. Second year students will be confirmed April 25, 2027. A Communion Information Class will be held sometime this Fall, a time has not been set. Children's sermons are scheduled for: Sept. 20, Oct. 25, Nov. 15th and Dec. 20th. VBS received a generous donation from the American Legion - \$1,000 and the Presbyterian Mission Fund - \$3,000. A big thank you to both organizations.

With no further business before the Council, a motion was made by Kathy Guyer and seconded by Ben, to adjourn the meeting. The meeting was closed with the Lord's Prayer.

Respectfully submitted, Jane Piepgras - Treasurer



Living Meadows
Fair Day

News From Lake Hanska Lutheran Church

Noisy Offering Sunday - August 30th at Lake Hanska Lutheran Church will be the Noisy Offering Sunday. Continue to collect your change during August, and add it to the Noisy Offering Cans on Sunday, August 30th. This offering goes to the World Hunger Mission. We look forward to seeing the cans fill up for this mission gift.

Food Shelf Report - We delivered 30 lbs. of products for the month of June. We are so grateful to deliver goods at the end of each month. It is so easy to drop any non-perishable groceries, cleaning supplies, or hygiene supplies into the box provided in the Narthex of the church.

WELCA Quilters Report - Two quilters met to tie a fleece blanket before they met with the rest of the quilters to have lunch together at Cottonwood Grill. What a fun get-together to enjoy. We'd love for you to come join us. If you have any materials in good shape, or donating cash to buy more materials as our resources for funds are limited. If interested, we do also sell our quilts for \$25 each. Quilters meet again on Wednesday, August 5th.

Lawn Mowing Time ---- This time is here. Please respect your time slot. Our yard has been very well taken care of, so we thank everyone for that. If, for some reason, you can not mow during your time slot, please trade with another person to keep our property looking excellent all summer. Thank you for your help.

Lawn Mowers ----- This is a 2-week schedule

July 24 thru August 13 ----- Brian Kjelshus and Collin Kjelshus

August 14 thru August 27 ----- Larry Stoesz, Jordan Lilleodden and Ian Kjelshus

August 28 thru September 10 ----- Lynn Ahlness and Riley Ahlness

August Altar Committee - Beth Kral, Nancy Lilleodden and Bonnie Lilleodden

Ushers ----- August 2nd and 9th ----- Grant Sletta and Norman Skarphol

August 16th and 23rd ----- Brian Kjelshus and Dennis Broste

August 30th and September 6th ----- Lynn Ahlness and Riley Ahlness



A very special 'Thank You' to everyone that, in any way, assisted with the July 5th Worship service at Lake Hanska County Park.

Your help made it a joyous event for everyone.

Thank you, also, to everyone that attended this service.

It was indeed a beautiful morning to worship together and praise the Lord.

We also got to witness the Baptism of Jase Steven Chute, who became the newest member of Lake Hanska Lutheran Church.





OPERATION CHRISTMAS CHILD

It is that time again!

Supplies are NEEDED to help us fill at least 200 boxes.

- ♦ Everything School supply related: pencils, colors, notebooks, colored pencils, erasers, scissors, chalkboards with chalk, glue sticks (liquid kind **cannot** be sent).
- ♦ Non-liquid Hygiene supplies: bar soap, toothbrush, hair brush, comb, hair ties (**cannot** send toothpaste).
- ♦ Clothing accessories: tops, shoes (sandals), socks.
- ♦ Toys: Plush animals, soccer ball with pump, doll (extra batteries if a toy needs them).
- ♦ A small sewing kit - this can actually become an income for a family. Clothesline and Clothespins.
- ♦ Playing cards or other small brain games.
- ♦ A personal note from you - if you include your name and address it's possible that the child could write you back!

NO LIQUIDS OF ANY KIND!

**Please pray for ALL serving in the Military
~ both here and abroad ~**

**JONAS Eldridge JAC Gunderson KADEN Johnson
ANDREW McCumber ANDREW Peterson**

Prayer Concerns

*** Please help us to keep updated on our prayer concerns ***

*Let us know as peoples' health situations change by calling the church office (642-8500)
or by emailing faithofficemadelia@gmail.com*



Come
check out
the jungle!



August 2026

We are God's People. . . Leading Others to the Love of Jesus

Faith & Lake Hanska

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
If you haven't seen the VBS decorations yet, please take the time to have a look. Our faithful leaders have done it again!!		(4) * 2026 Madelia National Night Out * 6:00-7:30 PM A fun evening for the whole family! Fire Dept. providing food! Meet Deputies & First Responders Kids' activities and more Free and open to everyone! White Tent by the Golf Course				1
2 Communion 9:00 AM Lake Hanska 10:30 AM Faith 10th Sunday after Pentecost	3	4 10:00 AM Chair Yoga (F) 11:15 AM Pray without Ceasing/ Living Meadows See above for additional activity	5 9:00 AM Quilting at Lake Hanska	6 10:00 AM Chair Yoga (F)	7	8 8:30 AM Men's Morning Out Bible Study 3:00 PM (LH) Knewtonson/ Kjelshus Wedding
9 Communion 9:00 AM Lake Hanska 10:30 AM Faith 11th Sunday after Pentecost	10	11 10:00 AM Chair Yoga (F) 11:15 AM Pray without Ceasing/ Living Meadows	12	13 10:00 AM Chair Yoga (F) 6:30 PM Faith Council meeting	14	15
16 9:00 AM Lake Hanska 10:30 AM Faith 12th Sunday after Pentecost	17 9:00 AM Ruth Bible Study	18 10:00 AM Chair Yoga (F) 11:15 AM Pray without Ceasing/ Living Meadows NEWSLETTER DEADLINE	19	20 10:00 AM Chair Yoga (F)	21	22 8:30 AM Men's Morning Out Bible Study
23 Pulpit Supply Mya Hanson 10:30 AM Faith Hanska's 125th Communities Celebration Worship 13th Sunday after Pentecost	24	25 10:00 AM Chair Yoga (F) 11:15 AM Pray without Ceasing/ Living Meadows	26 3:30-5:30 PM Madelia Food Shelf Open House	27 10:00 AM Chair Yoga (F)	28	29
30 9:00 AM Lake Hanska 10:30 AM Faith 14th Sunday after Pentecost	31	1 SEPTEMBER	2 9:00 AM Quilting at Lake Hanska	3 10:00 AM Chair Yoga (F)	4	5 8:30 AM Men's Morning Out Bible Study

Faith Lutheran Church

306 Abbot Ave SW ~ Madelia, MN 56062

Phone: 507-642-8500

Facebook.com/Faith Lutheran Madelia

Website: www.faithlutheranmadelia.org

E-mail: faithofficemadelia@gmail.com

Lake Hanska Lutheran Church

17923 115th St ~ PO Box 65 ~ Hanska, MN 56041

Phone: 507-439-6635

(FB) Lake Hanska Lutheran Church

Synod Authorized Minister Ralph Flitter

Cell Phone: 507-317-4204 E-mail: flitteralph@gmail.com



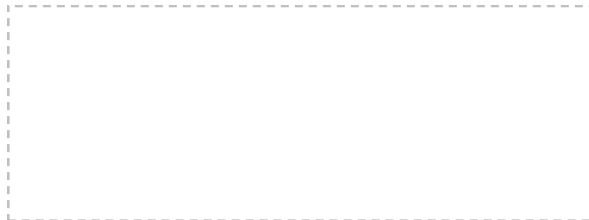
The Grape Vine

Faith ~ Lake Hanska
Main Office Address
306 Abbot Ave SW
Madelia MN 56062

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

Altar Committee:

Lake Hanska - Beth Kral, Nancy Lilleodden,
Bonnie Lilleodden
Faith - Council members



Office hours:

Joyce: Every afternoon except Friday.

You can email the office with your information or questions.

You can call Ralph at 507-317-4204, Joyce at 507-642-8500,
your church president:

Faith: Lori Pietsch 507-317-4634 **Lake Hanska:** Melissa Engelhart 952-836-9564
or email the church at: faithofficemadelia@gmail.com
or Ralph at: flitteralph@gmail.com
for your church needs or assistance.

~ August ~

Worship Schedule

9:00 AM @ Lake Hanska

10:30 AM @ Faith

Faith Office Phone: 507-642-8500

Lake Hanska Phone: 507-439-6948

Faith Email: faithofficemadelia@gmail.com

Ralph Flitter Email: flitteralph@gmail.com



Communion is the 1st & 2nd Sunday of each month, unless otherwise noted