

FAITH LUTHERAN CHURCH
753 N. CALUMET AVE.
VALPARAISO, IN 46383

(219) 462-7684

WWW.FAITHVALPO.ORG

Embraced by God through Jesus Christ our Lord, we share this gospel of hope and healing within and throughout our community within and throughout our community



Who's Watching?

The eyes of all look to you, and you give them their food in due season.¹⁶ You open your hand; you satisfy the desire of every living thing.¹⁷ The LORD is righteous in all his ways and kind in all his works.¹⁸ The LORD is near to all who call on him, to all who call on him in truth. (Ps. 145:12-18 ESV)

Therefore, since we are surrounded by so great a cloud of witnesses, let us also lay aside every weight, and sin which clings so closely, and let us run with endurance the race that is set before us,² looking to Jesus, the founder and perfecter of our faith, who for the joy that was set before him endured the cross, despising the shame, and is seated at the right hand of the throne of God.³ Consider him who endured from sinners such hostility against himself, so that you may not grow weary or fainthearted.⁴ In your struggle against sin you have not yet resisted to the point of shedding your blood. (Heb. 12:1-4 ESV)

"You are the light of the world. A city set on a hill cannot be hidden.¹⁵ Nor do people light a lamp and put it under a basket, but on a stand, and it gives light to all in the house.¹⁶ In the same way, let your light shine before others, so that they may see your good works and give glory to your Father who is in heaven. (Matt. 5:14-16 ESV)

Summer can be a time when we do a great deal of sitting and watching. Fireworks, movies, nature, people, are all things we may choose to observe as we hopefully take some time to pause and catch our breath. In light of this, I want to pause here as well and ask you to take some time to reflect on the subject of watching.

As you watch the people around you, what do you see? What are some of your own initial reactions to what you are seeing? What are some of the struggles and needs you see? What are some conclusions you may be jumping to? Where might our vision be a bit distorted and what might it be distorted by? I wonder what does God see when looking at the same things? What might be encouraging us to see, and pray for or respond to? What would a Christ-like response look like?

I heard an interesting question the other day. How would you act differently if you could truly see what is always present in the room with you? Have you ever made an effort to regularly stop and ask yourself what would someone see if they were watching me right now? I'm not talking about trying to do things for appearance, I mean asking yourself, "what are my words and actions actually conveying to others?" What would God, a fellow Christian, someone who was seeking God, someone who does not currently believe in God, etc. see and hear, and what impression might they get, if they sat behind me during church, in the narthex, at a church meeting, in my car, at work, on vacation, or when I'm at my best, worst, or having a difficult time with something? What if my approach to such things is not healthy for them or for me? What adjustment can be made—not just the appearance of what I am doing, but what can alter the heart and impulse behind it?

This comes back to the question of what, or more accurately who, are you watching? When the time comes to show love or make a sacrifice, or simply go about your daily life as a Christian in the way we are called to do, what motives and models these things for us? How would we look different at a family gathering, around a campfire, or in our daily encounters with people, if we followed the example of those in the early church, as described in the book of Acts? What was so different about their heart and actions that it made them a target? Yet also made them stand out in a way people sought them out to learn about why they were the way they were and to become a part of their faith community?

This Summer take some time to read and reread the bible verses above. Then read the entire chapters or books of the Bible in which they are contained. Also, take a look at the beginning of the book of Acts. As you read and reread, keep asking the Holy Spirit to show you what these passages have to teach you, including about the questions in article above? Then with eyes fixed on Jesus, ask the Spirit to help you see what God wants you to see, act, and rest in this summer. If you are open to it you might find this to be quite an adventure.



Happy June and July birthdays!

Paul Grossnickle	June 10
Gabriel Beagley	June 12
Inge Nimtz	June 22
Jay Gottleber	June 23
Fran Marton	June 25
Donald Underwood	June 25
Kristin Busch	June 29
Loretta Frank	July 2
Hannah Grossnickle	July 4
Paul Nord	July 5
Gail Hoover	July 5
Peyton Marton-Gipson	July 8
Tom Driver	July 9
Nathaniel Koehneke	July 13
Mark Price	July 14
Mackenzie Brant	July 14
Lilly Greenfield	July 17
Dayla Fryman	July 24

SEWING SEEDS OF LOVE

Our sewing group sent sewing kits to Orphan Grain Train in memory of Donna Cawby, who started our group. We also sent money to Lutheran World Relief for 16 quilts also in memory of Donna. We hopefully will bless more quilts in the near future for Orphan Grain Train.

Our group made 4 blankets for our graduates and had them blessed. Congratulations to Lucy Fryman, Damien Grubb, Adison Foxx and Margeaux Berner. We are so proud of you!

SEWING LESSONS: The dates for our sewing lessons will be Thursday, July 10, 17, 24 and 31 from 9:00-11:00am. We will be making aprons the first two weeks and shorts the second two weeks. Just bring a pair of your shorts that fit you well to use as a pattern. Hope you can join us. Please let Dorothy Kehe or Gail Hoover know if you plan to attend.



MICRO BREW SMALL GROUP DATES FOR SUMMER

Micro Brew Crew will meet at 2:00pm at church on Monday, July 14 and 28 and August 11 and 25.



Our annual Pentecost Potluck— great food and fellowship!

SAVE THE DATES



July 27—All Action Team Meeting. Team leaders should have reports prepared as well as dates to include on the 2026 calendar. The meeting will be held after Bible Class and lunch will be served. If you are unable to attend, please let Pastor Schoech know.

August 8 - Annual church/VCA picnic

August 10—End of Summer/School Year Kick-off worship service.



On June 1, 2025, through Holy Baptism, we welcomed our newest member, Kaitlyn Grubb. Pictured on right, Mom and Dad, Charity and Jason, with Kaitlyn.



The Sunday school children planted new flowers on Sunday, May 25. A big thank you to the kids! The flowers are beautiful!

PLEASE NOTE: we will not have Sunday School on July 6 due to the holiday weekend.

SILLY SAFARI—*GOD CREATED ALL.*

Calling all kids! Everyone is invited to this program to be held on Thursday, July 24 at 10:00am in the Gathering Space of the VCA. This program features live animals and is fun for all ages! Please come 10 minutes prior to 10:00am to insure seating for all. For more information please contact the VCA at (219) 548-5799.

Faith Lutheran
Church

753 N. Calumet Ave.
Valparaiso, IN 46383

Email:
office@faithmemorial.net



FAITH WORSHIP SCHEDULE

The Third Sunday after Pentecost, June 29, 9:00am Holy Communion
The Fourth Sunday after Pentecost, July 6, Holy Communion
The Fifth Sunday after Pentecost, July 13, Word and Prayer
The Sixth Sunday after Pentecost, July 20, Holy Communion
The Seventh Sunday after Pentecost, July 27, Word and Prayer
The Eighth Sunday after Pentecost, August 3, Holy Communion
The Ninth Sunday after Pentecost, August 10, Word and Prayer
The Tenth Sunday after Pentecost, August 17, Holy Communion
The Eleventh Sunday after Pentecost, August 24, Word and Prayer
The Twelfth Sunday after Pentecost, August 31, Holy Communion

