

THE FAITH HERALD

MAY 2026 NEWSLETTER



FAITH'S DIRECTORY FAMILY PHOTOS

Sign Up Now for FREE family Photos!

We have been blessed with so many new faces in our congregation, making this a wonderful time to update our photo directory. New member Tony Rizzo has graciously offered to take family photos right after church, both May 3rd and 10th. Thanks also to Bonnie Savory for helping in this endeavor!

Please call or text LaDonna (406) 460-1994 to schedule your appointment today! If you are unable to attend or if you just prefer a send a selfie that is perfectly fine as well.

IMPORTANT NOTE: The information you choose to share is completely up to you, but participating is a meaningful way to help us connect, grow, and get to know one another within our Faith FAMILY. 🙏

FAITH LUTHERAN CHURCH (FLC), ELCA

FLC is a family of God built on love: worshiping, welcoming, learning, and serving in Christ's name. All are welcome.

SUNDAY WORSHIP

9:30 AM

In Person: 171 Lewis LN

Hamilton, MT 59840

Live Stream: YouTube @

www.faithlutheranhamilton.org

or

facebook @

Friends of Faith Lutheran

Pastor Paul Anderson

509-844-1120

flchamilton.pastorpaul@gmail.com

FLC Office Hours:

Mon. - Fri. 9 am-1 pm

Phone: 406-363-2964

Email:

faithlutheran59840@gmail.com

Website:

www.faithlutheranhamilton.org

facebook:

Friends of Faith Lutheran



P a s t o r ' s
P e n d e r i n g s



Dear Members and Friends of FLC

While growing up I learned to not ask questions but to seek answers. As I child I was often told that you ask to many questions. So I strived to look for and find answers.

When I entered seminary, I thought I would finally get answers to my theological questions. I was disappointed because instead of finding answers to my questions, I only had more questions. I was more disappointed when one of my professors dared me to live in the questions.

I now love questions. Questions open us up, cause us to search and look deeper or wider than perhaps we would normally look. Questions turn up the soil, they expand our horizons, and they open portals into new dimensions. Questions invite power sharing, honor the individual and are provocative and disarming. Questions send us on a quest. Jesus knew the transformative power of questions and utilized their incisive edges quite often. In fact, I've been told he asked at least, 325 questions, 236 of them were unique. "What do you want me to do for you?" "What do you think?" "Who do you say that I am?" "Do you love me?" "Do you want to be made well?" Which one of Jesus' questions is your favorite?

We are entering a season of new beginnings, eighth grade promotions, high school and college graduations, post grad school, new jobs, etc ... What questions are you asking in this season of your life? What questions are you asking in this season of the life of Faith Lutheran Church?

How would you categorize the season of life that we are in? What do you long to see happen? What are you grieving, hoping for, and working towards? What part are you playing in helping live into the questions we are asking? How do you want to use your gifts, talents, and passions to envision and build the next chapter at FLC?

Doubts are also a form of questions—and maybe that's why I really like and enjoy Thomas? While Thomas never asked a direct question, he was present to his doubts, grief, wonderings, and curiosities, all implicit questions. And maybe he wondered: Why Jesus left them or how God could have let Jesus' death happen at all, or how it was possible that Jesus was physically alive or if the others were lying, among a bunch of other questions. Regardless, he stayed present to his doubts and questions in the context of his community. He kept seeking and asking. What about you? What doubts do you have? What do you need to "touch and see" so that God can help your unbelief about our current season?

Now, loving questions like I do, there is a favorite quote of mine from Ranier Marie Rilke, offering advice to a young poet.

"Be patient toward all that is unsolved in your heart and try to love the questions themselves like locked rooms and like books that are written in a very foreign tongue. Do not seek the answers, which cannot be given you because you would not be able to live them. And the point is to live everything. Live the questions now. Perhaps you will then gradually, without noticing it, live along some distant day into the answer."

May God grant us the patience, creativity, and grace to live the questions themselves of this season of our church and gradually live into their answers.

Partners in sharing God's grace,
Pastor Paul

COUNCIL CORNER

May 2026



Spring is one of the most beautiful ways God shows us His promises in action. After a long winter, the earth begins to soften, seeds begin to grow, and life returns—quietly but faithfully. It reminds us that God is always at work, even when we cannot see it.

In the Bible, spring reflects renewal, hope, and new beginnings. Just as flowers bloom in their proper time, God brings growth in our lives when the season is right.

“See! The winter is past... flowers appear on the earth; the season of singing has come.” — **Song of Solomon 2:11–12**

Simple Reflection:

**Where is God bringing new growth in your life right now?
Even small beginnings can lead to something beautiful!**

In that spirit, your council has many new growth opportunities in the works!

First, Vacation Bible school is a wonderful way to serve our community, and it will upon us before you know it!! The place is our church this year and dates are July 6th-10th Please sign up soon so we can plan accordingly. Contact Rick Brown at (406)381-6329 for all your VBS information.

Second, The council has put together a special committee to investigate the cost of replacing carpet and benches in our sanctuary! Stay tuned...

And finally, council is also moving forward with working on a new Pictorial directory! (See article for all the details)

Here's wishing you the very best spring! 🌸

LaDonna Grotbo

Steward of Communication



FLC COUNCIL MEMBERS:

President/Convener: Cory Keith

Communication: LaDonna Grotbo

Discipleship: Rick Brown

Fellowship/Hospitality:
Barb Anderson

Finance: Susan Peterson

Outreach: Jane Mason

Property/Grounds: Greg Houser

Worship: Amber Richardson

FLC STAFF:

Pastor: Paul Anderson

Office Secretary: Jennifer Larson

Bookkeeper: Heather Wintergerst
faithlutheran59840.financial@gmail.com

Custodian: Rick Brown

You may reach out to council and staff members by:

calling: 406-363-2964

or emailing:

faithlutheran59840@gmail.com

If you would like to look at the Faith Lutheran Church Financial Statement, please email the Steward of Finance, Susan Peterson:

flchamilton.finsec@gmail.com

GRATITUDE

Faith Scholarship Committee,

Thank you so so much for the wonderful Valentine's Day goodies! It always makes me feel loved to hear from my faith family, and I feel so special to be a recipient of this tradition. I am so grateful for you all, and think of you often.

I look forward to seeing everybody for Easter!

From the very bottom of my heart, thank you.

Grace + Peace,
Maizie Mendenall

Thank you Church Family for the wonderful Valentine's Day box. I loved and enjoyed it very much!

-Luke Mendenall

EASTER CROSS

Thank you Fessler family for decorating Faith's cross for Easter Sunday!



Thank you guys so much for all of the snacks, as a college kid I can never have enough.

It meant a lot knowing you guys were thinking about me.

-Finn Dufresne

COMMUNITY MEALS

The Faith Community Meals team will be preparing and serving the April meal the same time as the May Faith Herald is being printed and sent out. However, here is some information from the March meal. We served a total of 137 dine-in, take-out and delivered meals on March 24th. Twelve volunteers worked to prepare and serve the meal for a total of 35 volunteer hours. This program wouldn't be possible without volunteers and donations of both food and money. Thank you, Faith family, for being generous with your time and willingness to provide food, especially protein/meat goods, and give money to our church outreach efforts that make our meals possible.

The CM program ends for the summer the middle of May so Faith will not serve a meal this month. However, it's important to remember hunger does not take a vacation. There is still a need for food during the summer months. Please consider helping the food banks in the valley with donations of food or monetary donations. Donations may also be sent to the Montana Food Bank Network that regularly provides food to our local banks. During the summer months it's especially helpful to donate items that kids can prepare by themselves or with little supervision while not in school. Peanut butter, cereal, and snack bars are some ideas. And as always, thank you for your generosity and compassion.

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT	
<div style="border: 2px solid purple; padding: 10px; display: inline-block;"> <p>SAVE THE DATES! VBS 2026 JULY 6-10 @ FAITH</p> </div>						1 Ladies' Lunch 1 pm @ Coffee Cup	2
3 Worship 9:30 am Directory Family photos after worship	4 Simple Way 3 & 5:30 pm	5	6 Quilting 9-noon	7	8	9	
10 Worship 9:30 am Directory Family photos after worship	11 Simple Way 3 & 5:30 pm	12	13	14	15	16	
17 Worship 9:30 am	18 Simple Way 3 & 5:30 pm	19	20 Quilting 9 am-noon Council Mtg. 5:15 pm	21 Men's Breakfast 9 am	22	23	
24 Worship 9:30 am	25 Simple Way 3 & 5:30 pm	26	27	28	29	30	
31 Worship 9:30 am							

LADIES' LUNCH

The Faith Ladies' Lunch will meet on Friday, May 1st. We meet at the Coffee Cup at 1 pm. Questions? Call Sandy Russ (406-531-0424) or Anita Bell (406-961-4656).

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|-----------|----|-------------|----|-----------|----|
| Tim W. | 2 | Danielle H. | 14 | Chad F. | 12 |
| Nancy O. | 3 | Tom A. | 18 | Darrin H. | 23 |
| Will H. | 4 | Judy G. | 18 | Lucas B. | 24 |
| Anita B. | 5 | Donna J. | 18 | Pete S. | 29 |
| Deidra M. | 6 | Diane J. | 18 | | |
| Randy M. | 12 | Sage B. | 22 | | |
| Nathan B. | 13 | Rohn W. | 22 | | |

