



## Crusader Contemplations

“And take the helmet of salvation, and the sword of the Spirit, which is the Word of God...” Ephesians 6:17

Faith Family,

Last Sunday in Mr. Yurk’s children’s sermon at Faith Lutheran Church he spoke to the children (and the adults) about the Armor of God from Ephesians chapter six. As He spoke about how God has given us all we need to defend ourselves from the schemes of the Devil, I got to thinking about the verses, especially verse 17 and the sword of the Spirit.

I grew up in Nebraska, where football and volleyball rule. I played flag football for my Lutheran school through 8<sup>th</sup> grade, high school football, and then played college football at two different universities. After moving back to Nebraska while teaching I began coaching football at Lincoln Lutheran High School. I played and coached in a lot of rivalry games, but this game against Lincoln Christian was different. It was centered on faith and the trophy was a sword, the Sword of the Spirit.

The game brought intensity in practice for a week. It brought more focus and added anticipation. We worked harder that week because of the prize at the end. We all wanted to win the Spirit Sword Game and bring the Sword back to our school.

This is what got me in church. We fight so hard and give all our attention, focus, and energy for these moments in sports and in life, but do we miss the big picture? We live and die on the little things, but look back at the verse and see what the Sword of the Spirit is, “the sword of the Spirit, which is the Word of God.”

What if our focus wasn’t on the sword, but what it truly was? Can you imagine if our attention and energy was focused on reading, studying, and sharing the Word of God? What a difference for us and for our world we could make if we truly followed the first commandment of our Lord and put Christ and His Word first.

As Mr. Yurk proclaimed on Sunday, we have a loving God who went to the cross to win the war for us, but also cared so much to give us everything we need each day to defend ourselves from sin, death, and the Devil. He gave us armor, but also a sword, the Word of God, to protect us and cut down the temptations that attack us.

Through the work of amazing Christian coaches, the game also became joint tailgates, the Fellowship of Christian Athletes used the postgame as a speaking event, and it had guests who shared our faith in Christ Jesus such as the legendary Tom Osborne (three time national title coach of the Nebraska Cornhuskers). It became a tool and vessel for sharing the Word of God with the world around us as Christians came together to celebrate their faith and encourage one another.

So what is our vessel? Is it sports, music, literature, or math? I am not sure what it is for you, but I do know that God provides daily opportunities in front of all of us through our earthly lives and endeavors to share His love and His saving story. That is why I am here and why the teachers of Faith Lutheran School are here, to take our vocations and use them to joyfully tell others about Jesus.

So together as the Faith Family of Faith Lutheran Church & School let us focus on the things God has provided to us through the lens of the sword of Spirit and share our Lord's Good News with those around us for the encouragement of each other and the growth of God's Kingdom.

In Christ and For Faith!

Timothy Leech

## Crusader Spotlight



**Wednesday,  
September 11  
Yearbook  
Picture  
Day**



K-8 dress in chapel uniform. Picture ordering information came home this week. Thank you!



**Happy  
Grandparents/grand-friends  
Day!**

*Friday, September 20, 2024  
9:30-11:30  
Meet in the Church*

Faith Lutheran School 2727 S. Grove St.  
Eustis, FL 32727

# Crusader News

## **Lady Crusaders Back to Winning Ways**

The Lady Crusaders pushed their record to 3-1 in the 2024 campaign with a bounce back sweep (25-9, 25-15) over St. Paul Catholic from Leesburg. The Crusaders were led by Lorelei Leech (8<sup>th</sup>) who served 12 straight points in the first match, showed both great defensive court awareness, and provided strength at the net. Lillian Jones (8<sup>th</sup>) ended the first set with four straight service points. Set two was more balanced and was highlighted by Joely Salazar (8<sup>th</sup>) with seven service points and Abigail Debraggio (7<sup>th</sup>) with six. Coach Sanderfeld's team has next week off but is back in action at Round Lake Charter School Tuesday, September 17.

## **School Pictures Next Wednesday**

Next Wednesday, September 11 is school picture day. These are individual student pictures and will be used for the 2024-2025 Faith Lutheran School yearbook. Students must be in chapel uniform; hoodies may not be worn for the pictures. Picture ordering information should have come home this week and parents should know ordering is optional.

## **Grandparents Day**

Grandparents Day is Friday, September 20 and will be celebrated from 9:30 – 11:30 am. Grandparents will meet in the Faith Lutheran Church sanctuary for an opening with Mr. Leech before starting the day's activities with their grandchildren. If your child does not have a grandparent, but has a grandfriend they are welcome to attend. As students will be signed out with their grandparent, we do ask that you contact the school office to let us know your child's grandparent or grandfriend will be attending. This will be an 11:30 am dismissal for all K-8 students.

## **JV Volleyball Gets a Win at Home**

Crusader JV Volleyball is in the win column and now 1-1 on the season after defeating Lake Prep in three close sets. The girls showed positive team work and resolve in getting the victory. Reese Bevin (5<sup>th</sup>), Jady Adriaola (6<sup>th</sup>), and Kaily Adriaola (5<sup>th</sup>) led the way for the young Crusaders in points while Lena Hanel (6<sup>th</sup>) showed positive leadership and Lillyan Field (6<sup>th</sup>) led the way with positive energy and effort. The JV team got a bonus set to play so everyone got to see the court. Coach Leech's JV Crusaders are next in action next Thursday, September 12 as they travel to St. Paul Lutheran in Lakeland.

## **Social Media**

Did you know you can help Faith Lutheran advertise just by following us on social media and liking and sharing posts? The more you follow, like, and share the more the algorithm builds and people will see all the fun things we are doing. Follow on instagram at [www.instagram.com/flcseustis/](http://www.instagram.com/flcseustis/) and on Facebook at [www.facebook.com/FaithLutheranSchool](http://www.facebook.com/FaithLutheranSchool).

## **Teacher Birthdays**

Next Friday, September 13 we will be celebrating two birthdays as Ms. Bierlein and Ms. Deirdre turn another year wiser. Make sure and wish them happy birthday when you see them next Friday.

## **New Website**

Have you been to the new school website at [www.flseustis.org](http://www.flseustis.org) yet? It is full of important information about the school and we have added resource pages for students and parents so you have direct links to grades, IXL, documents, and more. If you have not yet visited, visit and bookmark today!

## **After School Music**

Student Strings (Tuesday) and Children's Choir (Wednesday) kicked off this week, but you can still sign up. If your student is interested in playing the violin or cello or if they love to sing, then these opportunities hit the right note. The best part is they can do both and they are free! Contact Mr. Neas in the church office 352-589-5433 for more information.

## What does the Bible Say? Why do Lutherans Believe it?

Faith Lutheran Church is launching a new session of God Connects in October and we welcome you to join. No matter where you are at in your walk of faith, this class is for you.

Whether you have just heard of Jesus for the first time, or whether you're a lifelong believer who wants to know more about what the Bible says, this is the class you want to join. Whether you want to know what Lutherans believe and why Lutherans worship the way they worship, or whether you are looking at calling Faith Lutheran Church your home church, this class is where you can find what your soul is searching for.

## Need a Church Home or Pastoral Care?

If you are without a church home or your family is in need of pastoral care our church and pastor are your church and pastor when you are in need. Just give the church office a call and ask for Pastor Kappel and he would be glad to serve you and your family.

**GODCONNECTS**  
A COURSE IN CHRISTIANITY

Join us for an introductory class that connects you to God's love!

### Join Us

Saturday, October 5th & 12th

9 AM to 1 PM

Fellowship Hall of  
Faith Lutheran

Lunch provided

Questions and/or RSVP  
352-589-5433  
faithesustis.org

 LUTHERAN  
HOUR  
MINISTRIES  
LHM.ORG/GODCONNECTS



### WORSHIP SERVICES

Saturday - Celebration 5 pm  
Sunday - Traditional/Communion 10 am

### Bible Class & Sunday School

Biblical study and fellowship for all ages on Sundays at 8:45 am

2727 S Grove Street  
Eustis, FL 32726

Church: (352) 589-5433 www.faitheustis.org  
School: (352) 589-5683 www.faitheustis.com



**Rev. Marc A. Kappel**  
Senior Pastor

2727 S. Grove Street  
Eustis, FL 32726

www.faitheustis.org

mkappel@flcse.org  
352 589-5433

\*worship and Bible Study times correct, school website is incorrect on this magnet, it is www.flseustis.org.

\*contact Pastor Kappel for any pastoral need or to learn more about Faith Lutheran Church.

# Next on the Crusade...

## **Saturday, September 7, 2024**

5:00 pm Faith Lutheran Creative Worship (Sanctuary)

6:00 pm High School Youth Group

## **Sunday, September 8, 2024**

8:15 am Light Breakfast and Fellowship (Social Hall)

8:45 am Faith Lutheran Sunday School with Mr. Yurk! (Social Hall)

8:45 am Adult Bible Study with Pastor Kappel (Social Hall)

8:45 am Adult Bible Study with Corrine Hoffert (8<sup>th</sup> Grade Room)

10:00 am Faith Lutheran Church Traditional Worship (Sanctuary)

## **Tuesday, September 10, 2024**

3:15 pm Student Strings

3:15 pm Faith Cru (Volleyball & Soccer)

## **Wednesday, September 11, 2024**

### **School Picture Day!**

8:30 am Chapel (Mr. Olsen)

Chapel is in the sanctuary and all families and congregation members are welcome!

3:15 pm Faith Singers

## **Thursday, September 12, 2024**

4:00 pm JV Volleyball @ St. Paul Lakeland

5:00 pm JV Volleyball @ St. Paul Lakeland

4:30 pm Soccer @ Hampden Dubose

## **Friday, September 13, 2024**

Happy Birthday Ms. Bierlein

Happy Birthday Ms. Deirdre

## **Friday, September 20, 2024**

Grandparents Day (9:30 – 11:30 am) and 11:30 am K-8 Dismissal



# Quick Crusader Links

[Facts Family Portal](#)

[Buy School Uniforms](#)

[Faith Lutheran School](#)

[Faith Lutheran School Instagram](#)

[Faith Lutheran School Facebook](#)

[Faith Lutheran Church](#)

Faith Lutheran School provides a quality education in a close-knit community centered in Christ!

2727 S. Grove St.

Eustis, FL 32726

352-589-5683

[flseustis.org](http://flseustis.org)