



**The Crusader – August 30, 2024**

## Crusader Contemplations

Faith Family,

As football season arrives, it means it is time for Fantasy Football and all the fun to be had in picking players and building teams, just like you were the real general manager and coach of an NFL franchise. For those of you who play, you know there are a lot of strategies into how you choose the players to make the exact team you think will make it to the championship. No matter your strategy, I bet you want the super talented, reliable, and proven veterans on your roster. Picking teams, whether on the playground, for fantasy football, or in the board rooms of Fortune 500 companies, isn't very different.

This thought returned to me in church on Sunday as I looked past Pastor Kappel preaching to the stained glass windows behind him. While I have to admit, I might have missed part of the sermon, I was transfixed by the windows and the thought of how Jesus picked His team.

He took losers. He took fisherman, tax collectors, and sinners. Yes there was a doctor in there, but look that rag tag team He assembled. There wasn't a 10<sup>th</sup> round draft pick in there, let alone a first rounder. But Jesus called them to Him all the same. For three years they lived and worked with Him, and then they still doubted (Thomas), were arrogant (Peter), and selfish (James & John). If this group has a superstar it was Peter. Peter was often arrogant, denied Jesus three times, and after Christ's ascension still made mistakes and had to have Paul rebuke him so He could repent.

Yet this group was given the greatest honor of all, to spread the greatest news of all, Jesus Christ, fully God and fully man, lived, died, and rose again, and He did it all for you! Jesus did this all for our forgiveness and our keys to heaven with Him for eternity. This is the group our wise and loving God chose to tell His story, to share His love, and to provide the gifts of eternal life through Him.

This is the team we are called to by our Lord. We are to come as we are, full of sin and filth so that He may wash us clean in His sacrifice on the cross. There is nothing special about us, what makes us special is our Lord Jesus. We were chosen by Him, called to Him,

loved and forgiven by Him, and now we are here together being strengthened in Him, in order that he might send us to those who still need to know Him.

His love never runs out and there is always room on His team for more. Even for me, even for you, and even for those who surround us every day that He calls us to share Him with. At Faith Lutheran, we are special because of Jesus; therefore, we heed His call and proclaim Jesus in all that we do. We do this, while enduring what the world throws back at us without fear, because we know, with Jesus there is more love, more forgiveness, more room, and more life.

What a blessing it is to know and to proclaim that with Jesus there is always more.

In Christ and For Faith!

Timothy Leech

## Crusader Spotlight

FLS STUDENTS!!!!!!!!!!!!

REMEMBER THAT OUR STUDENT STRING GROUP AND THE FAITH SINGERS BEGIN MEETING NEXT WEEK - RIGHT AFTER LABOR DAY HOLIDAY. THOSE OF YOU REGISTERED FOR THE STRING ENSEMBLE WILL MEET TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 3 FROM 315-415.

THE CHOIR - FAITH SINGERS - MEETS WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 4 FROM 215-315. THIS IS FOR STUDENTS GRADES 1-6(SOME 7-8 MIDDLE SCHOOL GIRLS ALSO COME- WHICH IS GREAT!)

FOR ANY PARENTS THAT MIGHT STILL BE INTERESTED.....ANOTHER NOTE IS BEING SENT HOME THIS WEEK REGARDING THE SINGERS. STUDENTS ALREADY REGISTERED FOR STRINGS WILL ALREADY HAVE BEEN CONTACTED BY MR. NEAS. BY THE WAY, THERE ARE A COUPLE OPEN SPOTS FOR VIOLINISTS, IF ANYONE MIGHT STILL BE INTERESTED.....THIS WOULD BE FOR GRADES 3-8

IF YOU HAVE LOST THE YEAR'S SCHEDULE, NOT TO WORRY----I HAVE MORE.

PLEASE CONSIDER PARTICIPATING WITH US!!!!!! NEVER TOO LATE TO JOIN, AND THERE IS ALWAYS FOR MORE.

MICHAEL NEAS, DIRECTOR OF CHURCH MUSIC

[mneas@flcse.org](mailto:mneas@flcse.org) church 589-5433 cell 430-6218

# YOUTH ACTIVITIES KING'S KIDS

Elementary Youth Group

## About King's Kids

King's Kids is our elementary youth group open to all kids from PK3-4th grade. You do not need to be a member of the church or school to attend! Once a month we join together from 3-5pm in the CLC building and do something similar to VBS- there's games, snacks, crafts and more! Due to our size increase, we are splitting the dates by grade in order to better organize and have more fun!

## Save the Dates

### PK3-1st Grade:

September 6  
October 4  
November 8  
December 6  
January 10  
February 7  
March 7  
April 4  
May 16

### 2nd-4th Grade:

**September 20**  
**October 18**  
**November 15**  
**December 13**  
**January 24**  
**February 21**  
**March 7**  
**April 11**  
**May 16**

## Contact Info

Here are all the ways you can contact for more information:

- myurkeflcse.org
- (678) 773-1844
- Drop by the church office

## You Can Help!

The more volunteers, the more fun had by all! We can use anyone from middle and high school kids to retirees, no training required! All we ask volunteers to do is:

- Sign a volunteer release form
- Sign an affidavit of good moral character
- Sign up using the following QR Code:



# YOUTH ACTIVITIES YOUTH GROUP

Middle School Youth 5-8th Grades 6-8pm

## About Youth

Middle School Youth is open for 5-8th graders, both of the school and church, as well as those outside of either! We meet from 6-8pm (unless marked otherwise) and we usually provide snacks, games, and a devotion/Bible study. We meet in the middle school youth room NEWLY located next to the sanctuary in the church quad.

## Save the Dates

### Wednesdays

**August 28**  
**September 18**  
**October 16**  
**November 20**  
**December 18**  
**January 22**  
**February 19**  
**March 26**  
**April 16**  
**May 14**

## Contact Info

Here are all the ways you can contact for more information:

- myurkeflcse.org
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## Lake Yale Retreat

Calling all 6-8th graders! On November 1-3, the FL/GA district holds a retreat for middle schoolers at Lake Yale. Friday night into Sunday morning, there are games, breakout sessions on Bible studies or life topics, concerts, and even a party on Saturday night! The cost for the weekend is \$185/person, and includes all their meals, hotel stay, T-shirt, and pizza for the party! If you are interested, please let DCE Mike Yurk know!

# Crusader News

## Lady Crusaders Dig Up Lessons

The Lady Crusaders were 1-0 heading into this week and they were focused on getting better. On Tuesday they welcome in First Academy of Leesburg and after falling behind 7-0 in the first set Coach Sandersfeld's team hit their stride behind eighth graders Lorelei Leech and Kendra Vizzi and won convincingly in two (25-13, 25-6).

On Thursday they traveled to Oveido to take on perennial Lutheran power St. Lukes. They fell in two (25-12, 25-8) but used the match as a lesson learned for improvement. Now 2-1 on the season the Lady Crusaders prepare of St. Paul from Leesburg next Thursday at home.

## **School Pictures are Coming**

On Wednesday, September 11 all our Crusaders should be in uniform and looking their best because it is school picture time. 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. Be on the lookout for information on ordering pictures to come home soon as parents will have the option of purchasing photo packages, but no purchase is required.

## **Middle School Youth Group – The Party is Growing!**

The Middle School Youth Group kicked off the year this Wednesday with 27 fifth through eighth grade students. What was the best part? Well that depends on who you ask, but it was clear there was a lot of energy and a lot of fun with a night of games, snacks, and devotions with Mr. Yurk. Don't miss the next Middle School Youth Group night on September 18<sup>th</sup>.

## **Soccer Keeps Pushing Forward**

Coach Fritz's young varsity soccer team fell on Tuesday to Real Life 7-0 at home. What had Crusader fans excited was that while younger and outsized across the field, the young Crusaders never gave up or backed down. They pushed the ball for scoring opportunities throughout the game, but just couldn't connect to put one in the back of the net. The Crusaders return to action next Thursday against St. Barnabas at home.

## **JV Volleyball Begins Season**

Crusader JV Volleyball is officially underway after their first games against St. Lukes in Oviedo. This year Coach Leech's JV team has almost 20 excited girls on the team and they took all their energy and put it into a great team effort while both the Blue and the Orange team came up a bit short on the scoreboard. The Blue team we led by the Adriazola sisters (Jady and Kaily) who had seven aces between them and some great leadership by our sixth graders. The Orange team saw great serves from Loxley Leech and Cerene Reisman while Audrey O'Keefe led with great hustle throughout. The JV Lady Crusaders return to action Thursday at home against Lake Prep.

## **King's Kids Returns**

Next Friday, Faith Lutheran Church's elementary youth program returns for another year of fun. Each Kings Kids runs from school dismissal until 5:00 pm and is for all Faith Lutheran School students, Faith Lutheran Church members, and children from the community. Parents just have to sign the permission slip for their child to come and have a great time with Mr. Yurk and his volunteers. We start with our PK3 – 1<sup>st</sup> grade group on September 6<sup>th</sup> and then the 2<sup>nd</sup> – 4<sup>th</sup> Grade group will get their turn on September 20<sup>th</sup>. Children won't want to miss the fun, games, snacks, and Bible stories and parents don't want to miss out on two hours to themselves... oh and it's all free thanks to Faith Lutheran Church!

## **Open Invitation**

Life is hard. It wears you down dealing with all that is going on in the world and all the world is throwing at you. But Jesus offers a break from all of that and a strengthening in and through Him. We spend time each day in prayer, devotion, and studying God's Word at Faith Lutheran School that gives us the opportunity to once again realize Jesus loves us and has us in His hands. We also invite you to join us at chapel on Wednesday mornings and everyone is always welcome at Faith Lutheran Church for Worship and Bible Study. Dates and times can be found in the Crusader each week and you can always call Faith Lutheran Church at 352-589-5433.

## **What Does the Bible Say? Why do Lutherans Believe it?**

Faith Lutheran Church is preparing to launch a new session of God Connects, our new member class. However, you don't have to be church shopping to come, this class is open to everyone. If you are someone who wants to learn more about what the Bible says and why Lutherans believe what they believe and worship in the ways they worship. Whether you have been a Lutheran your whole life or have just been introduced to this Jesus guy, this class has something to offer you!

# Next on the Crusade...

**Saturday, August 31, 2024**

5:00 pm Faith Lutheran Creative Worship (Sanctuary)

6:00 pm High School Youth Group

**Sunday, September 1, 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)

**Monday, September 2, 2020**

**No School – Labor Day**

**Tuesday, September 3, 2024**

3:15 pm Student Strings

**Wednesday, September 4, 2024**

8:30 am Chapel (Pastor Hanel – Bethany Lutheran Church, Leesburg)  
Chapel is in the sanctuary and all families and congregation members are welcome!

3:15 pm Faith Singers

**Thursday, September 5, 2024**

4:30 pm Volleyball vs. St. Paul

4:30 pm Soccer vs. St. Barnabas

5:30 pm JV Volleyball vs. Lake Prep

## 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!

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