

Ninth Wednesday of Pentecost

July 22nd, 2026

Order of Worship – 6:30pm

Welcome

Ministry Highlights

Greeting

Opening Song “Open Now Thy Gates of Beauty” ELW #533

Prayer of the Day

Scripture Reading 1 Kings 3: 5-12 (NRSV)

Gospel Acclamation “Alleluia” from ELCA Setting 8 ELW pg. 188

Gospel Reading Matthew 13: 31-33, 44-46 (NRSV)

Sermon “Wisdom & Worth” Pastor Sue

Hymn of the Day “Be Thou My Vision” ELW #793

Offertory Prayer

Prayers of the People

Holy Communion: Heaven has come near: Come, share in the feast!

(Offering Collected during Communion)

“Seek Ye First” ELW #793

Post-Communion Prayer

Blessing

Sending Song “God of Grace & God of Glory” ELW #705

Pastor: Heaven has come near. Go, share the good news!

Congregation: Thanks be to God.

Readings for July 29th & August 2nd, 2026 will be from Isaiah 55: 1-5 (NRSV) & Matthew 14: 13-21 (NRSV) Key verse – Matthew 14: 16

We pray today for those who need healing in body, mind or spirit.

Especially Sandy, Terry, Barb, Tyrell, Carl, Terry, Mary Ellen, Jerry, the family of Lori Holte, all those impacted by the current Ebola epidemic in Africa, and all affected by the current food borne parasite epidemic. Give to each and all whatever you see they need.

Reader & Communion Assistant tonight: Jolanda Anderson

Prayer Concerns: If you or a family would like to be added to the prayer list, please contact the church office.

Hospitalized or needing a Pastoral Visit: If you or a family member has been hospitalized, please contact Pastor Sue.



SUMMARY OF ATTENDANCE
July 15th, 2026 – 45 July 19th – 106
June Total Attendance: 358
Care & Share Offerings for June/July 2026
will go to the Furniture Mission

MINISTRY HIGHLIGHTS

WEEK of July 22nd – July 26th, 2026

Today	6:30pm	Worship with Holy Communion
Thu	7:00am	King's Men at Deane's Diner
	11:00am	Faith & Conviction Meeting
	6:45pm	Dakota Vocal Union practice
Sat	9:30am	More Than Manna
		AUGUST NEWSLETTER DEADLINE
Sun	10:00am	Worship with Holy Communion
Mon	4:00pm	Faith Foundation Meeting
	6:30pm	Boy Scout Troop #213
	7:00pm	AA – Fellowship Hall
Tue	10:00am	Lectionary Bible Study in the Fellowship Hall
Wed	9:00am	Staff Meeting
	6:30pm	Worship with Holy Communion

We are so happy you are with us today! If you are visitor, please stop by the Welcome Desk after worship & look for me. We have a gift for you.

Pastor Sue will be attending a Pastors Conference in New Mexico from August 2 – August 15. Ginny Jesser will preach the Sundays & Wednesdays she will be gone & will also be available in case of an emergency.

Our Church Directory is available to view on your computer! Instant Church Directory - the program we use to build our church directory – has a member website. Go to <https://members.instantchurchdirectory.com/> You will be asked to enter your email address as it's listed in our directory. If your email address isn't listed in the directory, let Brenda Jo or Katie know so it can be added. Once you enter your email address, follow the directions on-screen to complete the create log-in process. After you sign in, you'll see the most up-to-date directory for our church. Any time updates are made, they will show on the Online Members' Website, too. For more information about the members' website, go here: <https://help.instantchurchdirectory.com/article/638-navigating-the-online-member-directory>

West Fargo Eats is a food share alliance located in Lutheran Church of the Cross. The donation box is located on the upper landing near the elevator. Thank you for your continued support of West Fargo Eats or other food pantries in the area to help those experiencing food insecurity. If **you** are experiencing food insecurity, please don't hesitate to reach out for help at West Fargo Eats or another food pantry. Members of Faith Journey can talk to Pastor Sue. All communications will be kept private & confidential.

Please keep the family & friends of Lori Holte in your thoughts & prayers. The memorial service for Lori will be on Friday, July 24, 2026 at 11:00am at Faith Journey Lutheran Church. Visitation will be one hour prior to the service. A full obituary is available on the West Funeral Home website: www.westfuneralhome.com

Planning an Event?

Contact Katie in the church office to secure the date & to receive the form needed to reserve the space. Needed on the form will be the contact person, date/s, times, est. number of participants & any other pertinent information. All activities MUST be scheduled through Katie to guarantee your time, date & the space requested. Thank you! **space not guaranteed without the necessary information & form

The Caring Ministry Team is planning a CPR course this fall, including hands-on training in CPR & AED use. The date & time are still to be determined. If you need to renew your certification or become certified for the first time, this is a great opportunity. A minimal fee will apply. Watch for more information in the coming weeks!

We are moving full speed ahead with the Faith Journey Lutheran Church App! Both Google Android and Apple Developers have officially approved the app, which is a MAJOR milestone in the process. What does that exactly mean... it means our next steps will be building and customizing it to best fit our needs. Over the next few weeks, I will be working closely with Subsplash to fine-tune all the details and get everything set up. While there is still a lot of work to be done behind the scenes, we are making progress and are super excited about what this new tool will offer our Faith Journey Family. Please keep an eye out for important updates and information about the next steps. I will keep you posted by email, newsletter, in the bulletin, and newsletter. Thank you for your patience as we step into the future of Faith Journey. God's Peace, Katie Berg

Take a moment after worship to check out our new church sign! To ensure the sign was installed this summer, the church council voted to release money from the general fund to cover the remaining cost. To date, we have raised 87% of the \$55,000 needed, which leaves us with \$6996.25 left to raise. Your continued donations to the Facility Enhancement Fund will help replenish the general fund. Thank you so much for helping us realize this goal!

All are Welcome to join us at the Revised Common Lectionary Bible Study on Tuesdays at 10:00am in the Fellowship Hall. Maren Kramer will facilitate the discussion on August 4 & 11 while Pastor Sue is away.

If you are interested in volunteering at Bethany Retirement Living Facility, please contact Brianne Anderson at 701.239.3246 or visit their website www.bethanynd.org and click on the 'contact' section for more information.

The deadline for the August Newsletter is Saturday, July 25. If you have anything for this edition, please send it to Jolanda Anderson at jolandaanderson@gmail.com

Matthew 13:44-46

⁴⁴ "The Kingdom of Heaven is like a treasure that a man discovered hidden in a field. In his excitement, he hid it again and sold everything he owned to get enough money to buy the field.

⁴⁵ "Again, the Kingdom of Heaven is like a merchant on the lookout for choice pearls.⁴⁶ When he discovered a pearl of great value, he sold everything he owned and bought it!

Faith Journey Lutheran Church
Wednesday, July 22nd, 2026

Ninth Wednesday of Pentecost
6:30pm

WIFI Guest: Faith-Guest Password: FaithJourney

Ministers: All members of Faith Journey Lutheran Church

Pastor: Sue Koesterman - skoesterman@growinfaith.org

Parish Business Manager: Katie Berg - kberg@growinfaith.org

Faith Formation Director: Maren Kramer - mkramer@growinfaith.org

Executive Asst. for Finance & HR: Heather Reimer - hreimer@growinfaith.org

Creative Worship Coordinator: Jane Whaley - jwhaley@growinfaith.org

Contemporary Worship Coordinator: Jamie Thompson

Church Council President: Ali Farstad - Olson

Worship Sunday 9:00am Traditional (September – May)

11:00am Contemporary (September – May)

10:00am - Rotating Traditional & Contemporary (May 24 – Sept. 13)

6:30pm – Wednesdays (May 27 – Sept. 9)

Launch Family Sunday School for 4 years - Grade 5

Sunday, 10:00am - Fellowship Hall (During the school year)

Compass Confirmation for Grades 6 - 8

Wednesdays, 7:00pm - Worship Center (During the school year)

Find us on our Website: www.growinfaith.org

Instagram: [faithjourneyWF](https://www.instagram.com/faithjourneyWF)

Facebook: [faithjourneyWF](https://www.facebook.com/faithjourneyWF)

Send bulletin and newsletter information to:

Jolanda Anderson

jolandaanderson@gmail.com

Church Office Hours: Monday – Thursday
Friday

9:00 – 4:00pm
9:00 – 12noon