

October 2025

Campus Locations:

Grace Lutheran

PO Box 7

Brandon, MN 56315

www.gracethroughfaithministries.com

Faith Lutheran

526 State Street

Evansville, MN 56326

www.gracethroughfaithministries.com

Pastor

Pastor Bradley Pearson

Hours:

9 am to noon Mon/Tues/Thurs - Faith

Noon - 2 pm Mon/Thurs - Grace

9 am to 2 pm Wed - Grace

Phone: 320-834-5179

Email: pastorbrad@gctel.net

Office-Grace

Kelli Wendel

Hours: 8:30 am - 4 pm T-TH

Phone: 320-524-2262

Email: grace@gctel.com

Office-Faith

Hours: Contact Pastor Brad

Phone: 218-948-2574

Email: faithlc@gctel.com

Parish Council President

Lon Burgess

Phone: 320-266-8407

Grace Council President

Erin Okerlund

Phone: 320-815-7169

Faith Council President

Bob Anderson

Phone: 701-260-4302

You are encouraged to routinely check the parish web & Facebook pages to keep up to date on any changes with worship schedules and activities.

Grace Through Faith Ministries

Growing Together in God's Love to Serve Others

Worship Schedule



Worship Times

9 am - Grace

11 am - Faith

Worship online when you can't make it in person.

Visit

www.gracethroughfaithministries.com

and click on the LIVE STREAM button to watch.

Those without computer/internet access can watch at 8 am daily on Gardonville TV Channel 4 and Selective TV 21.4

Dates to Remember :

October 3	Donut Worship/Drop off Baked Goods
October 4	Grace Fall Bazaar
October 11	NWMN Synodical Women's Gathering 8:30 am - Messiah Lutheran, Hoffman
October 15	Faith Blood Drive
October 15-19	No Youth Activities - MEA Break
October 26	Reformation Sunday 10th Graders - Affirmation of Baptism



If you love to bake, we could use your help!

If you enjoy baking, volunteers are needed to provide treats for Sunday morning fellowship at both Grace and Faith.

If you prefer to donate money or buy items, you're welcome to do that, too! Please talk with Pastor Brad (Faith) or Kelli in the office (Grace).

Thank You!



Bakers Wanted

Confirmation

Sunday, October 26

Confirmation for our 10th Grade Students is planned for Sunday, October 26. Please keep the following students and their families in your prayers as they look to Affirm their Baptism and take this important step in their faith journey!

Grace:

Parker Buchholz
MaKena Hokanson
Lillian Mohagen

Evan Dingwall
Kya McFarlane
Deegan Pikkaraine

Faith

Cole Johnson



Attention: If you have an outlook.com, yahoo.com or hotmail.com email address, we have been having ongoing issues with our Gardonville email account being blocked.

Please contact the office if you have an alternate email address that we can use instead. Thank You!



Grace Lutheran Church
Faith Lutheran Church
10 to 10:30 am
Age 3 to Grade 4



Join us Wednesdays!

Confirmation

Gr. 5/6/7 - 5:45 to 6:30 pm
Gr. 8/9 - 6:45 to 7:30 pm
Grace

Come join the fun! Invite a friend - All are welcome!

Confirmation Requirements: Students will take turns serving as acolytes, readers, ushers and various service projects during the year. **Worship attendance is also a requirement of confirmation.**

What's Happening in Sunday School at Grace:

If you have kids Age 3 to Grade 4, please make an effort to have them take part in Sunday School!

The lesson begins in worship as part of the "Word with the Children" with Pastor Brad. Following worship, kids move downstairs where we break into age groups (Pre-Gr. 2, Gr. 3-4) to explore the message further with song, activities and discussion.

The 4th Sunday of each month is "Kids Run Church" where the kids sing songs they have learned as well as help greet, usher and read. Following worship, everyone will gather for a special intergenerational Sunday School activity. **Please join us!**

<u>Date</u>	<u>Theme</u>	<u>Teachers</u>
Oct. 5	A Seed of Faith Luke 17:5-10	Coley Wagner
Oct. 12	Ten Men Healed Luke 17:11-19	Karen Wirtjes Tina Pikkaraine
Oct. 19	No Sunday School MEA Break	
Oct. 26	Confirmation Sunday Intergenerational Activity	Tina Pikkaraine

**NO YOUTH ACTIVITIES OR SUNDAY SCHOOL
MEA BREAK - October 15-19**

Not everything we think about needs to be voiced.

This is a reminder for myself and all of us.

Free speech includes the freedom to honor the wisdom of keeping quiet and practicing the art of choosing our words carefully.

I sat in a meeting and listened as people were complimentary about an event until one person needled and poked with complaints they “heard” from others.

Not everything we hear needs to be or should be shared.

On the first day of Confirmation class, some bemoaned when I handed out the “THINK” sheet. “We did this last year!” Yes, we did and we’re doing it every year.

Before you speak, think and ask ...

T - is it true?

H - is it helpful?

I - is it inspiring? (does it encourage, compliment)

N - is it necessary?

K - is it kind?

No matter where we are or who we’re with, our words and the timing of our silence matters.

*God, keep Your arm around my shoulder and Your hand over my mouth.
Amen*

Happy October!

See you in Worship!

~ Pastor Brad

Pastoral Care

If you, a family member or friend of yours is sick, hospitalized, having or going to be having surgery or have any other concerns needing pastoral care – please call the Church Office: Faith at 218-948-2574 or Grace at 320-524-2262 and the Parish Assistant will contact Pr. Bradley. After hours, Pastor can be reached at the parsonage 320-834-5179.

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Give blood.

Every 2 seconds someone
in the U.S. needs blood.

American Red Cross



Blood Drive Faith Lutheran Church

526 State Street - Evansville

Wednesday, October 15, 2025
12:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m.

Please call 1-800-RED CROSS (1-800-733-2767) or visit RedCrossBlood.org and enter: Faith Lutheran Church to schedule an appointment.



Come to give blood Sept. 22-Oct. 19 for a \$10
Amazon.com Gift Card by email! See rcblood.org/fall



Blood Drive – Wednesday, October 15, 12 noon to 6 pm. Please call 1-800-733-2767 or visit RedCrossBlood.org and enter: Faith Lutheran Church to schedule an appointment. Thank You!



Faith on a Mission Indoor Yard Sale

2026 Indoor Yard Sale will be in March. Please keep us in mind as you're doing your Fall and early Spring cleaning. For more information, talk with Candi Steer. Thank You!



The food pantry comes to Evansville the 2nd Tuesday of every month from 11:30 am to 1 pm at the Evansville City Hall.

How Can I Help?

- Volunteers are needed to help people register, shop, carry groceries etc. Please contact either Diana at City Hall or Deb Erickson to volunteer.
- The pantry will accept donations of non-perishable food or garden produce. If you have something to donate, please bring it the 2nd Tuesday of the month while the mobile unit is in town.
- Pass the word on to anyone that might need these services and let them know this help is available.

Any further questions? Contact city hall or one of the volunteers.

October 2025 Faith Worship Assistants

	October 5 11 AM -Faith Communion	October 12 11 AM -Faith	October 19 11 AM - Faith	October 26 11 - Faith Communion
Sound/Video	Brad Anderson	Larry CARlson	Sandy Alvstad	Brad Anderson
Reader	Naomi Anderson	Vicki CARlson	Candi Steer	Rita Loftness
Ushers	Larry Carlson	Elise LeMay Family	Doug Alvstad	David Jante
Communion Servers	Jenell Week			Sharon Denardo

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Faith Lutheran Council Meeting Minutes

Sunday, September 14, 2025

Members Present: Doug Alvstad, Warren Erickson, LeAnn Strand, Jim Neuman, and Angie Baker

Guest Members: Pastor Bradley Pearson

Council started the meeting with Thanksgivings.

The meeting was called to order by Co-President Doug Alvstad. LeAnn moved to approve the agenda; Jim seconded. Motion carried.

Jim moved to approve last month's minutes; Warren seconded. Motion carried.

Visitor Report: Nothing to report

Treasurer Report: Warren made a motion to approve the Treasurer's Report; Angie seconded. Motion carried.

Pastoral Report:

- The Bishop meetings were postponed because his mother was gravely ill; we sent the donation for the "Fill the Tank Fund".

- On Sunday, October 26 kids will be encouraged to wear costumes to church.

- The month of November, Pastor Brad will have a tree of some kind or branches from a tree for people to write on leaves what they're grateful for.

- Sunday, November 23 is Thanksgiving Sunday. We'll be inviting the community to join us for services, dinner, and decorating the church for Christmas. We will discuss this more at our next meeting.

Old Business:

- Uneven cement around the building – we're still waiting to hear when the work is going to be completed.

- Aluminum Cans - the container has been removed from the back of the church. We received many comments of how much cleaner it looks.

New Business:

- Air Conditioning - tabled for next meeting after we get more information.

- October Noisy Offering - Empowering Kids out of Perham. They provide support & resources for neurodiverse individuals and their families in rural Minnesota communities.

Next Meeting Date: October 12, 2025 at 12 pm

Pastor Brad closed the meeting with a prayer.

Meeting was adjourned by Co-President Doug Alvstad

Respectfully submitted: Angie Baker

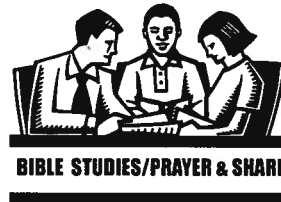


Sunday, October 12, we'll receive an offering for **Empowering Kids Perham, Minnesota.**

Empowering Kids provides a range of services specializing in autism and ADHD in rural Minnesota communities. Their vision is a life of hope, happiness, dignity and purpose for neurodiverse individuals and their families.

Mark Your Calendars!

Sunday, November 23 is Thanksgiving Sunday. We'll have a turkey dinner after worship and decorate the church for Advent & Christmas. The community will be invited.



BIBLE STUDIES/PRAYER & SHARE

Bible Studies:

Mondays

7:00 pm

Tuesdays

Men's: 6:30 am

Women's: 9:00 am

Prayer & Share:

Thursdays

9:30 am

Faith Lutheran Fellowship Hall

Prayer and Share is an informal gathering of Faith members to visit, share concerns and pray. This group is open to everyone (men and women). Come for coffee, conversation and end with prayer for people within the congregation and community

Fund Balances as of 8/31/25:

General Fund	\$70,560.30
Building Fund	\$164.53
Christian Ed Fund	\$4,518.63
Benevolence Fund	\$5,968.97
Service Min. Fund	\$13,930.08
Scholarship Fund	\$5,157.72

As of 8/31/2025

General Fund Giving: \$78,683.76

General Fund Expenses: \$84,059.48



Grace Lutheran Church Minutes - 9/10/25

Grace Members Present: Danielle Anderson, Don Bakken, Tom Behlke, Steffen Morical, Erin Okerlund, Tina Pikkaraine, Clem Roers & Renee Thompson



Guests Present: Pastor Bradley Pearson, Kelli Wendel

Erin called the meeting to order. Steffen motioned to approve the agenda as amended. Danielle 2nd. Approved.

VISITOR REPORTS: None

PASTORAL REPORT: Confirmation Orientation was held. This year will be a transition year. There will be two classes (Grades 5/6/7 and Grades 8/9). 9th Graders will be confirmed this spring. This year's 8th Graders will be confirmed next October. This year's 10th Graders will be confirmed in October.

Pastor asked council if they had any thoughts from last month's discussion on coming up with hands on activities that the congregation could do together to make a difference locally. Many ideas were shared. Pastor will review suggestions. Discussed inviting congregation to participate in the ones already planned for confirmation students.

Pastor shared that there is a need for a few people to fill in for snow removal for church sidewalks. The individual who normally fills any gaps from the volunteer sign-ups is unable to do so this year. Discussed recruiting a group of people who would be willing to fill in and act as a back-up as needed. There is a dedicated snowblower to help.

SECRETARY'S REPORT: Don motioned to approve minutes as presented. Clem 2nd. Approved.

TREASURER'S REPORT: Kelli presented financials. We continue to see positive giving – council celebrated the fact that we did not have a decline over the summer months as we have in the past. Danielle motioned to approve. Renee 2nd. Approved.

OLD BUSINESS:

•**Rally Sunday:** Good turnout; nice mix of ages participating. Thanks to all who helped.

NEW BUSINESS:

•**Mold/Mildew in Preschool Room:** There is a problem in the preschool Sunday School room. Trustees working on reviewing the best course of action. Will coordinate mitigation of clean-up. Plan is to wait to repair until it is certain we have identified the root cause of the problem.

•**Fall Bazaar:** October 4. Council encouraged to promote and share info within the community and invite people to participate.

•**Set Date for Congregational Meeting in November:** November 16, following worship.

•**Parish Council Report:** Met September 7. Sue Johanson has taken over as Parish Council Treasurer. Payroll has moved to Alex Tax. Reviewing pastoral health insurance plan options and cost.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

DEACON'S REPORT: Discussed being watchful and aware for visitors and new members to make sure they feel welcomed and included.

BOARD OF EDUCATION: Working on getting confirmation kids to help out with Sunday School. Will participate in Community Night Out on October 3 at the football game.

TRUSTEE'S REPORT: Meeting with another elevator company to get a second opinion/quote for service.

NEXT MEETING DATE: Wednesday, October 8 - 8 pm at Grace

Don motioned to adjourn. Steffen 2nd. Closed with the Lord's Prayer.

Submitted by: Kelli Wendel, Parish Assistant



Grace Giving at a Glance

General Fund:

Giving August 24	\$2,913.00
Giving August 31	\$1,977.00
Giving September 7	\$2,665.95
Giving September 14	\$3,685.00
Giving September 21	\$2,823.11
Giving September 28	TBD

Coffee	\$78.00
Building Giving	\$150.00
Mission Giving	\$284.00
Noisy Offering	\$254.25
World Hunger	\$320.00
Camperships	\$3.00
Elevator	\$75.00
Bazaar	\$486.00
Bible Fund	\$194.00
Sunday School	\$2.00
Thrivent Choice	\$285.00

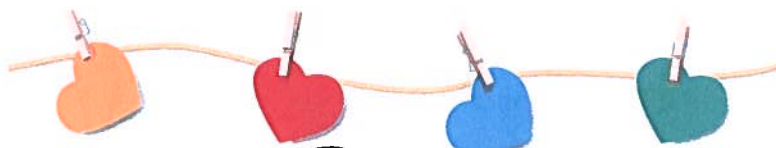
Weekly General Fund Giving needed to meet the budget = \$2,979.00

Fund Balances as of 8/31/25:

General Fund	\$70,570.40
Building Fund	\$40,926.93
Christian Ed Fund	\$18,273.98
Mission Fund	\$17,194.16
Scholarship Fund	\$2,538.15



CHURCH COUNCIL / FINANCE GRACE



Fall Bazaar

Anxiety weighs down the ♥. But a kind word cheers it up. Proverbs 12

The Fall Bazaar is almost here - October 4th! Saying "Yes, I will serve!" are kind words that cheer us up.

Helping the lefse crew and donut dippers bring many kind words to the other volunteers.

Join us on October 4 in the kitchen, at the bake sale or visiting with guests to cheer your



Thank you for all you do to help make this a successful fundraising event for our church!

Don't forget:

- Sell your raffle tickets and bring sold tickets/money to the church by Friday, October 3. Lots of fun things to win!
- Bake some tasty treats for the bake sale - church will be open until 6 pm on Friday for drop off.
- If you are unable to help in one of these ways, but still want to be a part of this fundraiser - you can make a donation instead.

Honey Sundays

Dakota Boys & Girls Ranch



We will again take orders for honey produced by Dakota Boys & Girls Ranch. They are \$10 per bottle with all proceeds going to the Ranch. October and will be "Honey Sundays". The honey will be mailed to you in December. Order forms will be available at the Bazaar and following worship Sundays in October.

October's Noisy Offering - Dragonfly Mental Wellness Foundation



Did you know that 50% of all lifetime mental illness begins by age 14, and 75% by age 24? Or that 1 in 6 U.S. youth aged 6 – 17 experience a mental health disorder each year? Or that 1 in 5 U.S. adults experience mental illness each year? (National Alliance on Mental Illness)

Our Noisy Offering for October will be the Dragonfly Mental Wellness Foundation, a nonprofit organization based in Alexandria.

What they do:

- Increase public awareness of mental wellness
- Raise & administer funds for scholarships & grants
- Provide support to individuals for suicide prevention

Grace Beyond Our Doors



Next Meeting: Thursday, Oct. 2 at 3:30 pm - All are welcome!

October 12 - Noisy Offering for The Dragonfly Mental Wellness Foundation (Diane)

November 9 - Noisy Offering for West Central Initiative Fuel Assistance (Annette)

December 14 - Noisy Offering for Outreach Food Shelf (Jean); Maybe coordinate with youth for service activity (collect paper items, etc.)

Future ideas: Salvation Army, Red Cross

Present: Pat Freese, Terrill Morical, Jean Nelson, Diane Olson



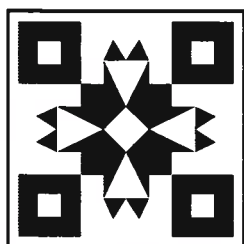
Thank you for the following gifts in honor or memory of loved ones:

In Memory of Gene Fynboh

GBOD: Steve & Jean Nelson

In Memory of Bob Hefti

Elevator: Tom & Annette Helder, Steve & Jean Nelson



**Join Us for
Quilting at Grace
Thursday,
October 9, 16, 23 & 30
9 am**

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GRACE

Don Pennie	1	Emrie Goble	16
Allison Sturges	1	Stella Hintermeister	17
Tristan Zastrow	2	Blake Satterlie	17
John Black	3	Reese Hintermeister	18
Taylor Dingwall	3	Yvonne Hermanson	19
Clara Wirtjes	3	Clem Roers	20
Aubree Hieper	4	Cohen Reiland	21
Jim Augdahl	5	Jayse Meissner	23
Chelsea Gasser	5	Jaclyn Sayre	23
Peggy Okerlund	6	John Anderson	24
Tonya Breikreutz	8	Kathy Fynboh	25
Christopher Vinson	8	Marissa Sturges	25
JJ Rossum	9	Kelli Wendel	25
Juleen Goble	11	Jordan Lund	26
Deegan Pikkaraine	11	Kay Black	27
Landon Stich	11	Dianna Santjer	27
Madeline Stich	11	Michelle Olsen	28
Kailee Klimek	14	Oliver Johnson	29
Corrinne Kruize	14	Jean Esala	30
Heather Mohagen	15		

Faith

David Jante	1
Marilyn Bah	3
Donald Schecker	4
Brian Luetgers	5
Bently Shores	8
Lily WEisel	9
Churck Steffenson	12
Geri Burros	16
Maci Shores	17
Meagan Steffenson	17
Oaklie Englund	18
Charlotte Krienke	18
Dallas Anderson	20
Jennifer Englund	20
Randy Jacobson	21
Dale Alstead	22
Joyce Hanson	27
Judith Cress	28
Terri Christianson	29
Galea Jacobson	29
Heidi Johnson	29

Kids wear your Halloween Costumes to worship on **Sunday, October 26.**



We extend our heartfelt sympathy to the family and friends of Nelda Olson.

Nelda went Home to Jesus on at the age of 97. Her service was held at Faith Lutheran Church on August 19. Burial will be at Mound Grove Cemetery.

October 2025 Grace Worship Assistants

	October 5 9 am Communion	October 12 9 am	October 19 9 am	October 26 9 am Confirmation - Communion
Acolyte	Oliver Johnson	Lane Hokanson	Mason Borgstrom	Jorja White
Reader	Pam Mickelson	Hokanson Family	Steffen Morical	Jorja White
Ushers	Morical Family	Hokanson Family	Morical Family	White Family
Communion Servers	Pam Mickelson Brenda Hintermeister			Tom & BreAnn Anderson
Coffee/ Fellowship	Kevin Challes Kris Baardsen	Hokanson Family	Tom & BreAnn Anderson	Seiling Family Morical Family
Musicians	Joyce Engel	Rebecca Heyn Heyn Family	Annette Helder Tom Helder	Marcus Decker

Altar Guild - Brenda Trisko, Jan Sponsler

October 2025

Stay up-to-date ONLINE at www.gracethroughfaithministries.com
& on FACEBOOK www.facebook.com/gracethroughfaithministries

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			1 5:45 pm Confirmation (Gr 5-6:7) 6:45 pm Confirmation (Gr 8 & 9)	2 9:30 am Prayer & Share—Faith 1 pm Pastor at Brandon Assisted Living 3:30 pm Grace Beyond Our Doors—Grace	3 9 am Donut Workshop— Grace Church Open until 6 pm to drop off baked goods and raffle tickets	4 Grace Fall Bazaar 9 am to 1 pm
5 9 am Worship—Grace Communion 10 am Sunday School 11 am Worship—Faith Communion	6 4-7 pm Piano Lessons— Grace 7 pm Bible Study—Faith	7 6:30 am Men's Study—Faith 9 am Women's Bible Study 10:30 am Pastor at Evansville Care Campus 1:30 pm Pastor at Evansville Assisted Living	8 5:45 pm Confirmation (Gr 5-6:7) 6:45 pm Confirmation (Gr 8 & 9) 8 pm Grace Council	9 9 am Quilting—Grace 9:30 am Prayer & Share—Faith 1 pm Pastor at Brandon Assisted Living 4-7 pm Piano Lessons—Grace	10 NWMM Synodical Organization Conf. 8 Gathering 8:30 am Messiah Lutheran—Hoffman	11
12 9 am Worship—Grace 10 am Sunday School 11 am Worship—Faith 12 pm Faith Council	13 4-7 pm Piano Lessons— Grace 7 pm Bible Study—Faith	14 6:30 am Men's Study—Faith 9 am Women's Study— Faith 9:30 am Bible Study—Grace 1:30 pm Pastor at Evansville Assisted Living	15 Red Cross Blood Drive 12—6 pm at Faith No Confirmation—MEA Break	16 9 am Quilting—Grace 9:30 am Prayer & Share—Faith 1 pm Pastor at Brandon Assisted Living 4-7 pm Piano Lessons—Grace	17	18
19 9 am Worship—Grace Wrenlee Swiontek Baptism No Sunday School—MEA 11 am Worship—Faith	20 4-7 pm Piano Lessons— Grace 7 pm Bible Study—Faith	21 6:30 am Men's Study—Faith 9 am Women's Bible Study 10:30 am Pastor at Evansville Care Campus 1:30 pm Pastor at Evansville Assisted Living	22 5:45 pm Confirmation (Gr 5-6:7) 6:45 pm Confirmation (Gr 8 & 9)	23 9 am Quilting—Grace 9:30 am Prayer & Share—Faith 1 pm Pastor at Brandon Assisted Living 4-7 pm Piano Lessons—Grace	24	25
26 Confirmation Sunday 9 am Worship—Grace Communion 10 am Sunday School 11 am Worship—Faith Communion	27 4-7 pm Piano Lessons— Grace 7 pm Bible Study—Faith	28 6:30 am Men's Study—Faith 9 am Women's Study— Faith 9:30 am Bible Study—Grace 1:30 pm Pastor at Evansville Assisted Living	29 5:45 pm Confirmation (Gr 5-6:7) 6:45 pm Confirmation (Gr 8 & 9)	30 9 am Quilting—Grace 9:30 am Prayer & Share—Faith 1 pm Pastor at Brandon Assisted Living	31	

NEWSLETTER

Grace Through Faith Ministries
PO Box 7
Brandon MN 56315

 **OCTOBER** 2025

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

320-834-4873

NON PROFIT
U.S. POSTAGE PAID
PERMIT #10
BRANDON MN 56315



Fall Bazaar

Grace Lutheran Church
205 Central Avenue, Brandon, MN

Saturday, October 4

9 am to 1 pm

**Soup, Sandwiches and Pie
Bake Sale
Produce Wagon
Raffle**

**Quilt, Themed Gift Baskets, Gift Certificates, & more!
Raffle Tickets For Sale - \$3 each or 6 for \$15.00**



Bazaar Reminders:

Friday, Oct 3:

Drop off Bake Sale
Items and Raffle

Tickets

9 am to 6 pm

Donut Workday

9 am

Saturday, Oct 4:

Shop and Pick up
Pre-orders

Soup/Sandwich/Pie
9 am to 1 pm

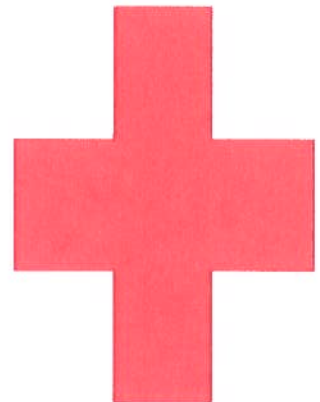
Please price your
baked goods before
dropping off at the
church.

If you have produce
items for the
produce wagon,
drop off on
Friday, Oct. 3

Give blood.

Every 2 seconds someone
in the U.S. needs blood.

American Red Cross



**Blood Drive
Faith Lutheran Church**

526 State Street - Evansville

**Wednesday, October 15, 2025
12:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m.**

Please call 1-800-RED CROSS (1-800-733-2767) or visit RedCrossBlood.org and
enter: Faith Lutheran Church to schedule an appointment.



Come to give blood Sept. 22-Oct. 19 for a \$10
Amazon.com Gift Card by email! See rcblood.org/fall

