

A dark purple rectangular background featuring a central cluster of vibrant, multi-colored scribbles in shades of pink, purple, blue, and green. Overlaid on this background is the text "BUILDING YOUR BEST LIFE" in a bold, white, sans-serif font, arranged in three lines. Below this, the phrase "The Simple Way..." is written in a white, elegant cursive script.

BUILDING YOUR BEST LIFE

The Simple Way...

Time after Pentecost
9:30 Worship Celebration

FAITH LUTHERAN CHURCH | Inviting, Growing, Serving...

Becoming fully devoted followers of Jesus Christ.

September 14, 2025

WELCOME TO WORSHIP

Faith is a growing faith community in the Aurora area. We're people just like you, who are hungry to know God better. We're looking for the answers to life's tough questions. We're struggling to be better parents, spouses, friends, and neighbors. We don't have all the answers but we're growing as we go.

Faith is a great place to find healing for broken hearts and broken lives. In every Sunday message you'll learn new skills and attitudes to help you live life with the kind of joy that God intends for us. You'll also meet people who are also growing in their journey through the joys and challenges of life. You'll find lots of "walking partners" for your journey here. There are no closed doors at Faith, just lots of opportunities to grow in Christ, friendship, and love.

Faith is a church with a great vision; however, accomplishing a great vision requires the participation of many great people like you. There's a place in our vision for you to use your unique gifts and talents.

CURRENT WORSHIP SERIES: BUILDING YOUR BEST LIFE

Change is something that most of us know we need, but few of us understand how to get it. We need more than willpower. We need God's power in our lives. In this series based on Galatians 5:22-23, we will explore the qualities that God's Spirit produces in us when we walk with Jesus – love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, and self-control – so that we can live our best lives!

The Gathering

OPENING SONG

Love Divine, All Loves Excelling

Love divine, all loves excelling, Joy of heav'n, to earth come down!
Fix in us thy humble dwelling, all thy faithful mercies crown.
Jesus, thou art all compassion, pure, unbounded love thou art;
visit us with thy salvation, enter ev'ry trembling heart.

Breathe, oh, breathe thy loving Spirit into ev'ry troubled breast;
let us all in thee inherit; let us find thy promised rest.
Take away the love of sinning; Alpha and Omega be;
end of faith, as its beginning, set our hearts at liberty.

Come, Almighty, to deliver; let us all thy life receive;
suddenly return, and never, nevermore thy temples leave.
Thee we would be always blessing, serve thee as thy hosts above,
pray, and praise thee without ceasing, glory in thy perfect love.

Finish then thy new creation, pure and spotless let us be;
let us see thy great salvation perfectly restored in thee!
Changed from glory into glory, till in heav'n we take our place,
till we cast our crowns before thee, lost in wonder, love, and praise!

King of My Heart

Let the King of my heart Be the mountain where I run
The fountain I drink from Oh He is my song
Let the King of my heart Be the shadow where I hide
The ransom for my life Oh He is my song

Chorus You are good good oh You are good good oh
You are good good oh You are good good oh

Let the King of my heart Be the wind inside my sails
The anchor in the waves Oh He is my song
Let the King of my heart Be the fire inside my veins
The echo of my days Oh He is my song

You're never gonna let Never gonna let me down
You're never gonna let Never gonna let me down
You're never gonna let Never gonna let me down
You're never gonna let Never gonna let me down

When the night is holding on to me
God is holding on
When the night is holding on to me
God is holding on

PRAYER OF THE DAY

L: O God, overflowing with mercy and compassion, you lead back to yourself all those who go astray. Preserve your people in your loving care, that we may reject whatever is contrary to you and may follow all things that sustain our life in your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

The Word

READING

1 Timothy 1:12-17

I am grateful to Christ Jesus our Lord, who has strengthened me, because he considered me faithful and appointed me to his service, even though I was formerly a blasphemer, a persecutor, and a man of violence. But I received mercy because I had acted ignorantly in unbelief, and the grace of our Lord overflowed for me with the faith and love that are in Christ Jesus. The saying is sure and worthy of full acceptance: that Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners—of whom I am the foremost. But for that very reason I received mercy, so that in me, as the foremost, Jesus Christ might display the utmost patience as an example to those who would come to believe in him for eternal life. To the King of the ages, immortal, invisible, the only God, be honor and glory forever and ever. Amen.

RESPONSE

I Love You Lord

please stand

I love you, Lord and I lift my voice
To worship You, oh my Soul rejoice
Take joy, my King in what You hear
May it be a sweet, sweet sound in Your ear

GOSPEL

John 15: 9-12

As the Father has loved me, so I have loved you; abide in my love. If you keep my commandments, you will abide in my love, just as I have kept my Father's commandments and abide in his love. I have said these things to you so that my joy may be in you and that your joy may be complete.

“This is my commandment, that you love one another as I have loved you.

MESSAGE

Love | Pastor Rob

PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH

- A: Gracious God, we come to you in prayer for the church, the world, and all in need.
- A: Merciful God, pour out your grace upon your church. Forgive us for the times when we have been unfaithful, and renew our commitment to your gospel of love. Empower us to live as a community of mercy. God of grace,
C: receive our prayer.
- A: Merciful God, we ask forgiveness for the ways we have neglected and harmed this earth and its creatures. Confirm our commitment to care for all you have made, and grant us wisdom and strength to take action toward restoring your creation to its fullness. God of grace,
C: receive our prayer.
- A: Merciful God, govern all who hold positions of power and authority. Instruct them to make just decisions that serve the common good. Make them instruments of your mercy in the world, working to heal divisions and promote peace. God of grace,
C: receiver our prayer.
- A: Merciful God, bind us together as a community of forgiveness and love. Supply us with humility to seek forgiveness when we have wronged one another and generosity to extend mercy when we have been wronged. God of grace,
C: receive our prayer.
- A: Gracious and loving God, we pray for the family and friends of Faith... God of grace,
C: receive our prayer.
- A: We entrust these prayers to you, O God, in the name of Jesus Christ, our redeemer and friend.
C: Amen.

SHARING OF THE PEACE

OFFERING

OFFERING RESPONSE

Praise and Thanksgiving

please stand

Praise and thanksgiving God we would offer
For all things living You have made good
Harvest of sown fields Fruits of the orchard
Hay from the mown fields Blossom and wood

OFFERATORY PRAYER

A: Lord of the harvest,
we return to you a portion of what you have given to us.
Turn us to set our hope not on the uncertainty of riches,
but on you, who richly provides for us.
Multiply what we have gathered
to bless all who are suffering and in need,
through Jesus Christ our Lord.

C: Amen.

The Meal

P: God's love for the world was so great that He gave us His Son, so that anyone
who believes in Him should not die
but receive eternal life.
We come to this table in need;
We are weak and need strength;
We are broken and need healing;
We are hardened and need softening;
We are poor in spirit and need care.

**C: We give thanks for Your compassion, O God;
We rejoice at Your invitation to share in this meal,
and we receive again Your abundant grace.**

P: So, let's remember how Jesus gave Himself for us;
At supper, on the night of His betrayal, Jesus took bread,
gave thanks, broke it and shared it with His friends, saying:
This is my body, given for you. Take it, eat it, and remember Me.

C: Amen.

P: After supper, Jesus took the cup,
gave thanks and shared it with His friends, saying:
This is my blood shed for you. Take it, drink it and remember Me.

C: Amen.

P: In this bread and in this wine we receive again
the generous, and costly gift of life,
offered to us through the sacrifice of Jesus.
This meal is a proclamation of God's goodness, a thanksgiving for God's grace
and a sharing in God's life.

C: And we will keep celebrating in this way until Jesus returns. Amen.

LORD'S PRAYER

Our Father, in heaven,
hallowed be your name,
your kingdom come,
your will be done,
on earth as in heaven.
Give us today our daily bread;
Forgive us our sins,
as we forgive those
who sin against us;
Save us from the time of trial,
and deliver us from evil.
For the kingdom, the power,
and the glory are yours,
now and forever. Amen.

INVITATION TO THE MEAL

P: Jesus welcomes sinners and eats with them.

Come to this meal of mercy.

C: Thanks be to God.

COMMUNION DISTRIBUTION

AN INVITATION

We invite you to share in Holy Communion this morning, regardless of your church background or lack thereof. We believe that God is present in the bread and wine as it becomes the body and blood of Jesus Christ and that this presence is a gift of grace in the lives of those who receive it. All are welcomed to the table enjoy this gift of God's love and mercy. Apple/Grape juice is in the center of the communion tray. Gluten free wafers available at usher stand.

COMMUNION BLESSING *please stand*

P: The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in His grace.

C: Amen.

The Sending

SENDING PRAYER

A: O God,
through this meal you have strengthened us
and appointed us to be your servants.
Send us to do good and to share our possessions
with all in need.
We ask this in Jesus' name.

C: Amen.

CLOSING SONG

Who You Say I Am

Who am I that the highest King
Would welcome me?
I was lost but He brought me in
Oh, His love for me
Oh, His love for me

Who the Son sets free
Oh, is free indeed
I'm a child of God
Yes, I am

Free at last, He has ransomed me
His grace runs deep
While I was a slave to sin
Jesus died for me
Yes, He died for me

In my Father's house
There's a place for me
I'm a child of God
Yes, I am

I am chosen not forsaken
I am who You say I am
You are for me not against me
I am who You say I am
I am who You say I am

DISMISSAL

P: Go in peace. Do not lose heart.

C: Thanks be to God.

NEWS & ANNOUNCEMENTS

Welcome to Faith!

We are so glad that you have chosen to worship with us today! Have questions about Faith? Wondering how to get connected or get more involved? We'd love to help. No matter where you are in life or how many times you've visited, we're here to guide you towards your next best step. Stop by the welcome center located near the main entrance. If this is your first time at Faith, let us know, we've got a special gift just for you!

STUDENT MINISTRIES ORIENTATION MEETING

Sun 9/14 | 10:45 AM

All 6th – 12th grade students and their parents are invited to attend the orientation meeting for Revolution, on Sunday, Sept 14 @ 10:45am in the sanctuary. Come learn about the exciting events planned for this year. Our program, events, mission trip 2026, Middle School Summer Camp 2026, and expectations for our Crossroads/Confirmation program will be covered. For more information contact Pastor Rob.

FAITH GOLF SCRAMBLE

Sun 9/14 | 1:00 PM

Join us for Faith's Golf Scramble at 1:00pm on Sept 14 at Springbrook Golf Course 2220 W. 83rd, Naperville, IL 60564. Grab your 4-some or sign up and we will add you to a group (no 5-somes allowed). All are invited so grab your friends and sign up today. Clubs can be rented for an additional fee.

Cost is \$45/per person and includes 9 holes of golf, 1 cart and a bucket of practice balls. In the event of rain, a rain date will be provided or a voucher to use another time.

Scramble golf, prizes and fun await!

WOMENS GROUP

Mon 9/22 & 10/6 | 7:15 PM

The Monday Night Women's Bible Study Group will resume on Monday, September 8th. This Fall we will be studying "Encouraging One Another, Women of Faith Bible Study" by Nicole Johnson. In Encouraging One Another, you will explore what Scripture has to say about the value God places on your life and how He notices all that you are doing. You will read passages that will lift your spirit as you hear God speaking His words of encouragement into your life. You will also discover that just as God lifts you up, He wants you to lift up others. We will study 2 chapters per session. You may order the book online at Christianbook.com

We meet bi-weekly at Faith's café & no need to sign up- We'd love to have you join us!

A MOMENT FOR MOM

Sat 10/11 | 10:00 AM

A Moment for Mom is a group for moms of kiddos ages 0-10 that meets the 2nd Saturday each month through May 2026. Sessions provide a delicious breakfast and amazing speakers on topics relating to motherhood. We offer affordable childcare while you attend. Our website is ready for you to explore our speakers and costs for the 2025-2026 year. Come join us and other moms to laugh, learn, and connect. Register today and/or reach out to us for more information at www.discoveringfaith.com/amomentformom.

REVOLUTION KICK OFF

Sun 9/21 | 5:00 PM

Put it on the calendar and get ready for a great new year of outrageous games, extraordinary worships, and engaging groups as we gather on Sunday Nights for our Student Ministries. Students, 6th-12th grade, are invited to attend this engaging night of growing as followers of Jesus. Student ministries meets the first and third Sundays of the month. Register today at www.discoveringfaith.com/students.

WOMENS BIBLE STUDY

Tues 9/16 | 9:00 AM

The Tuesday morning Women's Bible Study will resume their weekly meetings on Tuesday, September 16. All women of Faith are welcome and encouraged to attend. The group meets in the cafe from 9-10:30. This Fall the Bible Study will explore the book of Ruth through Timothy J. Mulders' book Ruth - a Story of God's Redeeming Love. The study covers such topics as God's loving-kindness (hesed), the foreshadowing of Christ, waiting on God's timing, the providence of God, and the redemption of Naomi.

The workbook is \$10 and will be available at the meetings.

For additional information contact Sue Boozell at sue.boozell@discoveringfaith.com.

ADULT ONLINE STUDY GROUP

Begins 9/23 | 7:00 PM

In the Footsteps of the Savior

Join us on an inspirational journey with Max Lucado through the hills, the dust, and the homes of the Holy Land! Discover, with new eyes, God's heart for his people and his deep love for you.

In this 6-week online study, you are invited to come with Max through Capernaum, Galilee, Bethany, Jerusalem, and more. This online study will be facilitated by Becky Marchiando. Please register at the welcome center or online so that we may send you Zoom credentials required to participate. Come join us!

COMPASSION WEEKEND IS COMING!

September 19-21

Compassion Weekend is all about caring for each other. All around us, people are hurting. They are tired, worn down and lonely. God cares deeply about the real-life challenges of real people in our neighborhoods. We serve each other as an extension of that compassion. There is no hidden agenda or secret motive. For this one weekend, we set aside our regular weekend services and activities simply to serve those around us. We want to invite you to join us! You can make a difference in the lives of others around us. Sign up today in the café or online at discoveringfaith.com

Outdoor Sunday Worship

Sun 9/21 | 9:30 AM

Come worship with us for our final outdoor service as we wrap up our Compassion Weekend on Sunday, September 21, we'll be meeting outdoors at 9:30 AM for only one worship service. No 8:00 AM service. Bring your lawn chair or blanket and join us on the lawn. We'll have some outdoor seating as well. You can also attend from your car by tuning into FM 88.3. We'll be live streaming this service as well, if you're unable to make it in person. Come join us!

GROUPLINK

Weds 10/1 | 7:00 PM

If you are interested in learning how to connect to a community group here at Faith please plan on attending Grouplink. In a community group, people study God's Word together and discuss the issues and challenges of life. It's also where they pray, care for one another, and are missed if they don't show up. Life change happens best in these small groups! Sign up at the welcome center or online at www.discoveringfaith.com

NEXT

Sun 10/5 | 9:00 & 10:30 AM

If you've ever wondered how to get involved at Faith or how to take the next step, don't worry. We've created a simple next step for you. It's a small gathering called NEXT. This informal gathering lasts approximately 20 minutes and will provide you with an overview of our mission, strategy, and environment to help you determine your best next step in continuing your faith journey. Pastor Rob and Jenn Richardson, Faith's volunteer coordinator, will be on hand for conversation and to welcome you to Faith. Meets fireside.

BLESSING OF THE ANIMALS

Sun 10/5 | 2:00 PM

From kittens to chickens, guppies to puppies, join us for our blessing of all animals great and small. This free event celebrating the Feast of St. Francis is open to the entire community, so come and enjoy this soon to be annual tradition. A short service will be led by Pastor Rob followed by individual pet blessings. Refreshments for pets and their humans will be served. In the event of inclement weather, the blessing will take place in the café. We will also be collecting donations for the Naperville Area Humane Society. Link below for the shelter's wish list. So, bring your pets to be blessed and help us to bless other animals who are in need. <https://www.naperhumane.org/wish-list>

HESED HOUSE SERVE EVENT

Weds 10/15 | 6:15 PM

We will need roughly 5 to 10 volunteers to help with meal setup, serving, and cleanup. Volunteers can conveniently signup online or at the welcome center. All that's needed is a serving heart. If you have questions about Faith's Hessed House ministry, please reach out to the ministry team at hessedhouse@discoveringfaith.com.

MEMBERSHIP @ FAITH

Mon 10/20 & 10/27 | 6:30 PM

This two-part course invites participants to explore the vision, mission and values of Faith, as well as a broad overview of the Christian faith from a Lutheran perspective. Participants will also discover their unique gifts and how they can use them in serving others. This course is open to everyone, and is an expectation of those who wish to become members at Faith! Register online at discoveringfaith.com or sign up at the welcome center.

FAITH'S OUTDOOR PROJECT

You're invited to be a part of extending our vision as we look to enhance our property and grounds through our outdoor project initiative. The outdoor project will provide additional opportunities for our community to gather for worship, outdoor events, concerts, weddings, and more.

The project includes three phases. Phase I: Outdoor structure and canopy. Phase II: Landscaping: trees, bushes, flowers. Phase III: Trellis enhancements on patio. Our goal is to raise \$45,000 to complete these three phases. To learn more about the project and/or to donate visit: www.discoveringfaith.com/outdoorproject, or stop by the welcome center and pick up a brochure.

This project has been generously underwritten by the Terry Olson memorial fund. We believe this initiative will have a positive impact on our ministries and mission, and we encourage everyone to get involved. Thank you for your prayers and generosity.

KIDWERKS

Sundays | 9:30 AM

Join us in the auditorium as we dive into learning about new virtues each month through stories from the bible so that we can grow in our understanding and relationship with God. To register go to discoveringfaith.com or for more information please contact jenn@discoveringfaith.com PreK – 5th grade

As Easy as Click & Give



As followers of Jesus Christ, we embrace irrational generosity. We know it changes lives—ours and the people we're reaching. At Faith, taking action on your generosity is simple. Just scan the QR code with your camera and give. Simple, safe, and secure.



Pastor Rob Douglas

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3000 LIBERTY ST. AURORA, IL. 60502 | (630) 862-3500 | OFFICE@DISCOVERINGFAITH.COM