

## HOLD THE DATES – DECEMBER 3-4!

Faith Lutheran has enrolled in WELS Congregational Services AXIS Program, designed to help congregations assess their current ministry efforts and plan for the future.

**Please mark your calendar for Saturday, December 3 from 9 am to 3:00 pm and plan to attend.** That is when Pastor Jonathan Hein, who serves on the WELS Commission on Congregational Counseling, will be here to facilitate our discussion. **This is your opportunity to present your views and to listen to others about our shared ministry vision for Faith Lutheran!**

Lunch will be served. A sign-up sheet is in the narthex. Please sign-up now! This session is open to all communicant members.

On Sunday, December 4 after service, Pastor Hein will provide an initial summary analysis. Please, do all you can to join us at those times. If you have any questions about this effort, please contact Scott Rawlins at 443-762-5377. Or you can email Scott at [scottdrawlins@gmail.com](mailto:scottdrawlins@gmail.com).

### DECEMBER 3 DETAILS

#### **What will happen on December 3 and why is this an all-day event?**

In the morning, Pastor Hein will lead us through a bible study. The study looks at what Scripture and the Lutheran Confessions have to say about key areas of ministry: worship, outreach, discipleship, youth ministry, stewardship, facility, and governance.

The goal of the study is to have the congregation be able to complete the following statement: *Based on the Scriptures and the Lutheran Confessions, for our church to be healthy in (insert any of those areas of ministry), Faith Lutheran would have to...*” Thus, we are defining, not Pastor Hein, what we should do ministry-wise in our community.

#### **After lunch we will focus on the “Congregational Health Pyramid.”**

At the base of the pyramid is Word and Sacrament. By God’s grace, Faith Lutheran teaches the Word in its truth.

The next layer is congregational culture. We will discuss what that is and how it affects a congregation. We look at examples of healthy and unhealthy aspects of culture. Then we will break out into groups to assess our congregational culture.

The next layer of the pyramid is strategy. We define it as “doing the right things.” We will talk about mission and vision, goals, and objectives. We then breakout and have groups dream a little of where they would like to be in three to five years. What are the things we want to “keep” and do exactly the same and what do we want to do differently and why?



Finally, the top of the pyramid is tactics. We define that as “doing the right things in the right way.” For this one, every person will list tactical ideas grouped by areas of ministry: worship, evangelism, youth discipleship, adult discipleship, and stewardship. The breakout groups can add other tactics, or things we might like to try. So, there is a big list that people can take home. Overnight, people will prioritize the tactics they think would be most beneficial. Those get turned in on Sunday morning. Pastor Hein will tabulate these, showing which tactics people thought would be most helpful.