

# **The Faith Lutheran Summer Fellowship Program**

## ***Information and Application***

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# The Faith Lutheran Summer Fellowship Program

Thank you for your interest in the Faith Summer Fellowship! We hope the following information gives you an idea about what it is like to be a fellow at Faith.

Let us know you are interested and ask any questions you may have by contacting Kristen Durst, Director of Youth and Family Ministry, at [kristenm@faithlc.com](mailto:kristenm@faithlc.com) or Laura Stowman, Director of Children and Family Ministry, at [lauras@faithlc.com](mailto:lauras@faithlc.com).

## About Faith Lutheran Church

Started by six Danish families in 1870, Faith Lutheran has grown into a vibrant, large congregation located in the mid-size rural town of Hutchinson, MN. Faith Lutheran offers three different worship opportunities and styles on Sunday morning, and has thriving children's and youth ministries, strong seniors' ministries and pastoral care, creative and ambitious missions and outreach, and diverse adult education opportunities. Faith has a twelve person staff of highly qualified and hard-working ministry specialists, and a heart for nurturing leaders.

Hutchinson is a beautiful city of about 15,000 residents in central Minnesota. An hour away from the Twin Cities and St. Cloud, Hutchinson offers the perks of small town life while also being close to big city opportunities.

## Mission of the Faith Summer Fellowship Program

The mission of this program is to cultivate young adult Christian leaders and community. We aim to accomplish this by offering multiple hands-on ministry training opportunities in the context of deep and intentional community. Fellows will have the opportunity to immerse themselves in a wide-variety of children and youth ministries and specialized mentoring, while also enjoying intentional communal living and young adult community.

## Scope of Fellowship

Fellowships will include a variety of experiences that are comfortable and some that are challenging for the fellow. The fellow will experience all of the summer children's and youth ministries, but can have a greater emphasis on children's ministry or youth ministry, depending on their preference.

## Summer children's and youth ministries to expect

- Youth group
- Vacation Bible School
- Middle School Madness
- God Squad
- Drive-In Diner (youth fundraiser)
- Faith Seeds (Sunday Children's sermon)
- Mystery Bus (mini middle school mission trip)
- High School Mission Trip (depending on adult leaders)

We would also love to talk with you more about the possibilities of designing an experience that could fulfill requirements for internships in the following areas: Publications, Graphic Design, Finance, Administration, Marketing, etc.

## Ideal candidates for the Summer Fellowship Program

Faith is open to hosting two to three fellows each summer. We are looking for candidates who are either discerning a vocation in the church, pursuing a degree where you would be working with children and/or youth, or you have a love for children and youth ministry. Some fellows may have just finished college, some may be in college and do the internship concurrently, and some will be accomplishing requirements for their training (i.e., seminary vicarage). The ideal candidate is necessarily a growing disciple, engaged with God's word and family, open to the ministry of the Holy Spirit, and respectful. The following would be helpful character traits: curiosity, humor, openness to growth, and willingness to work hard. The candidate is excited to jump into a new community and learn from a new ministry setting.

## Particulars

Fellows should expect to work, on average, 30 hours a week in Faith's ministries.

One goal of this internship is to experience a ministry schedule and church life schedule.

You should expect to participate fully as a fellow, and also actively engage in our congregational community. Some of your time spent participating in Faith's events and community opportunities will not count as "work" hours, but will be important opportunities to grow in your Christian discipleship, such as participating in worship.

Expect to meet with your primary mentor at least twice a week: fellow briefing and fellow debriefing. There may be more shadowing of your mentor especially at the beginning of the fellowship. During the first week, fellows will meet to go through expectations and development of what the community culture will look like.

## The Ansgar House and other Provisions:

We will provide space and grace for you to be equipped and to be mentored by experienced mentors.

If you do not have a home to stay for the summer, fellows can live in the Ansgar House, a home purchased for the Faith Lutheran interns located a block-and-a-half from the church. The Ansgar House is arranged in a duplex-style, with bedrooms, living areas, and a kitchen on each floor. The women live on the upper level and the men on the main level. Part of the commitment to the internship is committing to a healthy community with your roommates. This includes respecting the space you live in and following Faith's housing policies for God-honoring lifestyles.

We understand that you may need to get another part-time job to cover expenses. We will work with you on daily scheduling, but our expectation is that the internship is the priority.

The intern stipend for a full summer internship is \$2,250.

## Summer Fellowship Timeline

The fellowship at Faith is designed to be a summer long experience. Fellows for summer 2025 can look forward to the following dates.

### **Spring**

Monday, April 14 - Applications due for 2025 fellowship

Monday, April 21 - Faith sends official fellowship invitations to applications

Monday, April 28 - Future fellows commit to their upcoming fellowship

### **Summer**

Monday, June 2 - Orientation

Sunday, August 17 - Last day of summer fellowship

On the day of orientation, fellows will receive important dates that pertain to their primary ministry area.

## What will I do during my summer internship?

Here are some ideas of what your schedule might include as an intern at Faith.

### **Basic**

- Lutheran theology book study with fellows, mentors, and Pastor Dave Wollan

- Meeting with primary mentor as a group and individually at the beginning and end of the week
- Personal Bible study time
- Personal prayer time
- Communication, advertising, and organizing

### **Children's Ministry**

- Assist with planning, preparing and participating in Vacation Bible School
- Writing and leading a Faith Seeds message (Gospel message for children)
- Assist with planning and preparing fall ministries (primarily Sunday School)

### **Children's and Youth Ministry**

- Writing and leading a God Squad lesson (middle school youth group)
- Assist with planning and preparing Mystery Bus (mini mission trip for middle school students)

### **Youth Ministry**

- Assist with planning and preparing the Mission Trip
- Writing and leading FLY night (game, small groups, message)
- Planning, preparing and participating in Middle School and High School ministry events
- Assist with planning and preparing fall ministries (primarily Confirmation and Youth Group)

## Faith's Young Adult Community

As a fellow, you will be involved in Faith's Young Adult Community. This community consists of 18-25-year-olds who are excited to worship and grow in faith together. This community gathers weekly, at the Ansgar House. Each night centers around a meal and some combination of Bible Study, worship, fun activities, and Sporcle parties.

## Faith Summer Fellowship Application

We are thrilled that you are interested in being a fellow at Faith, and we can't wait to learn more about you! It is important that we explore some areas of experience, belief, and character with you as a potential fellow. Please complete the following application and email it to Kristen Durst at [kristenm@faithlc.com](mailto:kristenm@faithlc.com) and Laura Stowman at [lauras@faithlc.com](mailto:lauras@faithlc.com)

Applications for 2025 fellowship are due Monday, April 14th, 2025.

Full Name:  
Date of Birth:  
Address/ City / State / Zip: Phone:  
Email:

## Summer Fellowship Logistics Questions

1. Please share a paragraph about how you learned about Faith's Summer Fellowship Program and what excites you about potentially becoming an intern.
2. In which area (or areas) of our mission (Children, and Youth) would you prefer to emphasize your time as a Fellow?

Possible areas of focus include youth and children's ministry.

3. Why do you feel led to these particular areas? Share with us your experiences leading & investing in these areas? (Please share a paragraph or two.)
4. How do you expect to use your time outside of your fellowship? (For example, what kind of part-time job interests me? What sort of college classes would you take?)

## Your Faith

We are excited to learn more about your faith story! Please share a paragraph or two about each of the following questions. If you prefer, you can combine your answers to these questions into one longer essay.

1. Share with us your experience of faith. How does being a Christian inform and impact your daily life today?
2. What does it mean to you to share your faith with others?
3. Take some time to read through the Nicene Creed. Do any aspects of the creed raise questions for you? If so, please specify.
4. Faith Lutheran is unapologetically Lutheran, but welcomes non-Lutheran interns. What is your experience with the Lutheran church or ministries?

## Tell Us More About You

1. What are your greatest strengths? What are your greatest weaknesses?
2. What hesitations do you have about the idea of doing this fellowship? What questions do you have?

3. Are you in a place where you feel comfortable in having your life closely observed and followed by others?
4. In asking others for their honest opinion about how you are received and perceived by people, what have they told you?

As part of your application, please also provide the following

- A one-page professional résumé listing recent work, volunteer, and education experiences and any honors or awards.
- Names, phone numbers, and e-mail contact information for at least three references. Please include a pastoral/spiritual reference, an employer, and a character reference.

Please direct your completed application and any questions you may have to Kristen Durst at [kristenm@faithlc.com](mailto:kristenm@faithlc.com) and Laura Stowman at [lauras@faithlc.com](mailto:lauras@faithlc.com)