NEWS RELEASE

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NEW PRAGUE LUTHERAN CHURCH IS NOW FAITHPOINT LUTHERAN CHURCH

New Prague, MN, September 10, 2012 — Earlier this week, New Prague Lutheran Church revealed its permanent name: FaithPoint Lutheran Church.

Rev. Dr. Steve Trewartha, pastor leader of the church, made the announcement to the congregation during their Sunday worship service and explained the reason for the change. "A year ago when this new church was forming, the founding group felt strongly that the permanent name had not yet been given to them, that God had not revealed that piece. It was decided to go with a temporary name, one that reflected our community, but not necessarily all that we are intended to be," said Pr. Trewartha.

"Our church family has come together and grown tremendously over the past year, and while the majority of the congregation is from New Prague, we also have many people joining us from several surrounding communities," said Pr. Trewartha.

FaithPoint currently has over 300 families that worship together on Sunday mornings in the New Prague High School auditorium and several hundred youth that participate in their Sunday School and Wednesday night programs.

"Our new chosen name, FaithPoint, not only removes any geographical definitions, it also more aptly describes what God has created in this new church, a family of believers who are bound by a common faith and come together in worship and to serve others in His name."

The church held its first service on October 9, 2011 and has used the name, New Prague Lutheran, since that time. The church's early tagline was "New Prague Lutheran Church—a church with a temporary name but a permanent mission!" The church's mission is to Love Each Other with the heart of Christ, Learn His Word to share the Good News and Shine His Light so that all may know Him.

"Whatever point you are at on your faith journey, whatever direction you are headed at this point in time, we want our church to be there to help you," said Pr. Trewartha. "FaithPoint Lutheran Church... bringing faith to life. That is what is reflected in our new name."

FaithPoint also launched their new website this week. More information about the church, its new name, the staff and programs can be found at www.FaithPointLC.org.

To celebrate FaithPoint's new name and its first year as a church, they are giving out free ice cream on Saturday, Sept. 15 after the Dozinky Parade of Farm Pride from 1:30-3 p.m. at the FaithPoint Ministry Center located at 201 Central Avenue North – across from City Hall. Everyone is invited to come for ice cream after the parade.

FaithPoint worship services are held in the New Prague High School auditorium on Sundays at 9:30 a.m. Sunday School for all ages begins on Sept. 16 and Wednesday night youth programs start that same week. FaithPoint is a member of the Lutheran Congregations in Mission for Christ.

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