

July 2009

Faith, Family & Fellowship

The monthly newsletter of Faith Lutheran Church



In our May newsletter in my pastor's article, I mentioned our council retreat and the development by the council of a Leadership Chart customized, specifically, to Faith Lutheran. Together, with the constitution in hand, we listed all the various duties of each committee area. To our amazement, we found there are over fifty ministry related committees. We then listed the names of leaders in each of these areas, and have made an effort since that time to look for new people willing to serve in the areas where needed. Since that time, we have also elected a new council. Our goal is to get as broad a cross-section of the congregation as possible.

Recently, on June 14th, as part of our Volunteer Appreciation Sunday, during the sermon I listed all of the areas for ministry here at Faith, asking members to stand if they participated in each ministry. It was a wonderful visual to see nearly the entire congregation standing at both services. We were able to better appreciate one another and the fact that the church is the people... ALL the people... working together, sharing their God-given gifts with one another.

The Leadership Chart is helpful in a number of ways. First, if you have any questions or suggestions, or if you'd like to serve in any of these areas, you can look on the chart and you'll know who to contact. Secondly, it gives a nice over-view of the work of the congregation. Next, if you are in leadership and you're looking for a volunteer, look at the chart and see who's doing what. Then, call people who are not currently serving in leadership; that way, we can involve more people in the workings of the church. This also helps to eliminate "burn out" when we use the same people over and over again. The more people who are involved in the running of the church, the greater access we have to a variety of gifts and talents and ideas. Also, where there are no leaders listed in an area, there is where we need the most help. Currently, the chart is up-to-date. Our chart can also serve as an evangelism tool, as we explain the various ministries of the church to others. So, please take the time to read over the chart, which can be found inside this newsletter.

We are thankful here at Faith to have so many faithful servants. It is truly a joy to serve God together with our brothers and sisters in Christ. On behalf of all of the committees, we welcome you and encourage you to get active. Join the excitement as God leads us on new paths together, as side by side we further the work of Jesus Christ in the world.

God's blessings,

Rev. Jane Perkolup, Pastor
Vicki Dallmann, Secretary

353 N. Midland Ave, Joliet
815-725-4213
Office hours: Mon. thru Fri. 9-1

OUR MISSION: *Sharing the Love of God*

OUR VISION GOALS: *Feed the Hungry ~ Connect with New Neighbors ~ Grow Caring Relationships ~ Engage Adults in Christian Education*

SERVICE COMMITTEE NEWS

JULY CHALLENGE: The Service Committee has decided that our July challenge will be sponsoring one of our own congregants to march in the Susan G. Komen Breast Cancer Walk. Shayne Davila has been training for several weeks to prepare for the sixty-mile walk that will take place August 7 - 9 in Chicago. Her goal is to raise the required \$2,300 for Breast Cancer Research. Cancer has affected many of us here at Faith. Friends, family, and faith can help alleviate the fears and struggles that cancer challenges us with.



To make a donation, or find out more about Shayne's plans, go to The3day.org. Then go to donate on the right side, click on participant and type in Shayne Davila. Click on her name to donate. If technology is as difficult for you as it is for me, pink donation forms will be available in the narthex. Checks can be made out to the Susan G. Komen Foundation and given to either Jackie or Shayne. EVERYONE DESERVES A LIFETIME! Thanks for your interest and support!

The next **Service Committee meeting** is scheduled for Wednesday, July 15 at 12:30 p.m. in Lippoldt Hall. Lunch will be provided. I would like to extend a welcome to any new volunteers that might like to join the committee.

Thank you,
Shar Markese, Service Committee Chair



What's 4% of \$40,000?

**Thus far, members at Faith have bought \$40,000 in gift cards!
That's \$1,600 in earnings that have been applied to the general fund.**

GLEANNING GOD'S HARVEST **WORKS!**

**Thank you for your participation!
If you are not in the habit of purchasing
through this program, please join us!
The church needs your help.**



Dear Faith Members,

Thank you so much for your cards and memorial donations given to our church in Al's name. Your prayers and support have meant the world to us!

Thanks also to Pastor Jane for being with us every step of the way from the hospital, to the visitation, the funeral which she conducted, and the burial. Her presence was a great comfort to us.

*-Carla Wastalu, Eva (Wastalu) Stobbe
and family*

PRAYER BLANKET MINISTRY

*"God grant me the serenity to accept the things | cannot change,
the courage to change the things | can, and the wisdom to know the difference."*

-The Serenity Prayer



If you know of someone who you think would like a prayer blanket, or if you would like to participate in this very worthwhile ministry, please contact Joyce Reed 725-5540, Jackie Marks 467-4094 or Carol Vicic 254-6711.

CHRIST IN AMERICA

Quickly now, what colors do you associate with July? Did you say red, white and blue? Well, those are the colors of our national flag and they're really evident around the Fourth of July, our nation's birthday. But how about green? After all, July is the first full month of the "green" season, those Sundays after Pentecost. Still, the Worship Committee has nothing particularly exciting planned for July, so that gives me a reason to write about one of my favorite subjects – history.

Look at the Bill of Rights: "Congress shall make no law respecting an establishment of religion, or prohibiting the free exercise thereof." Why does it say that? Many countries in Europe had established state churches. But at the time our country was formed, there were already many Christian denominations in practice, and if you try to establish religion, whose church do you establish?

Undoubtedly the first Christians in America were Roman Catholics. When Columbus claimed the New World for Spain in 1492, he did so in the name of Ferdinand and Isabella, those most Catholic monarchs who, incidentally, ejected Jews and Muslims from Spain. As we know, the Spanish eventually colonized Mexico and California, as well as most of Central and South America. Wherever the Spanish explorers went, Catholic missionaries followed. Later, around 1524, the French claimed the northern lands of North America but did not begin settling until the early 1600's. Eventually, the French colonies extended all the way to Illinois, but only French Catholics were allowed to settle in New France. Protestants had to go elsewhere!

And where did Protestants go? To the Dutch and English colonies, of course. The First permanent English colony in North America was Jamestown, settled in 1607. Its arrivals were mostly Anglicans – members of the Church of England. After the War of Independence, the Anglicans became known as Episcopalians, forerunners of our friends at St. Edward's. Of course, every November we celebrate the arrival of the Puritans in New England in 1621. These Calvinistic English Protestants were at odds with the High Church practices and beliefs of the Anglicans. The Puritan church later became the Congregational Church, which in the last century merged into the United Church of Christ. The Dutch, who settled New Amsterdam, later New York, brought Dutch Reformed (Calvinist) Protestantism to these shores beginning around 1625.

Another Calvinist group, the Presbyterians, originated in Scotland and formed congregations in Pennsylvania, New Jersey and neighboring areas after 1706. The Baptists began in New England (principally Rhode Island) during the religious revivals of the 1720's and created their first formal organization in 1767. The Methodists began in England in the early 1700's as a group within the Anglican church devoted to intensive Bible study and simplified worship; the first Methodist missionaries arrived in America in 1735. And what of the Lutherans? It seems that Lutheranism was brought to America by Scandinavians and Germans who settled in New York and New Jersey in the 1620's, and notably by a group of Swedes and Finns who attempted to establish "New Sweden" in Delaware in 1638.

Other groups probably deserve to be mentioned as well – Quakers, Moravians, Mennonites, French Huguenots, for example, all were preaching and practicing in our country at its beginning. So what does this have to do with us? Our hymns and liturgy today draw on many traditions, not just what was handed down to us by German and Scandinavian settlers, as much as we admire them. I dare say that we are enriched by the various streams in our American heritage. Christ speaks to all of us in different ways. So today's church, as well as our nation, is "e pluribus unum," that is, "one out of many." In this month of July, let us celebrate our diversity.

Charles R. Wolf
Chair, Worship Committee





On June 7th, the congregation recognized and extended a blessing to our graduates:

Bryan Alonso, Minooka High School
Samantha Bohne, Lockport Township High School
Branden Ferro, Joliet Catholic Academy
Ashley Glenn, Joliet HS Adaptive Vocational & Academic Center
Kyle Hochevar, Joliet High School
Jessica Nichols, Joliet West High School
Kyle Severson, Augustana College



Book Study Group
 Thursday, July 30 at 7 p.m.
 will be discussing
The Screwtape Letters
 by C.S. Lewis

Girl's Group
 Tuesday, August 4th
 7 p.m.

Congratulations!

Congratulations to our newly elected Church Council members:

Chuck Champene, President
Carl Mendelson, Vice-President
Brenda Dodge, Treasurer
Bonnie Badurski, Secretary
Sharilyn Markese, Service Committee
Patricia Shue, Education Committee
Ryan Eggert, Resource Committee
Dennis Cannon, Property Committee
Charles Wolf, Worship Committee

and newly elected Endowment Committee members:

Tom Goldfuss
Kevin Kania
Jay Riemer

A gift of \$935 was given to the general fund in memory of Dr. Aleksander Wastalu. Thank you to wife, Carla, for designating the memorial gifts towards our operating expenses here at Faith and to everyone who donated.



Life is fragile - handle with prayer...
To start up the Prayer Telephone Machine, call Elsie at 725-4373 or go to www.faithjoliet.com

Evening Vespers

Mark your calendars for 6 p.m. Tuesday evening, **July 21** at 1st & Santa Cruz, for evening vespers in English/Spanish with our friends from First Lutheran & Santa Cruz. Following the brief service, we will gather for a shared pot luck meal. Please join us for fellowship with our neighboring congregation.

Jerry Lee Bush Sr. went to be with our Lord on Tuesday, May 26th. The funeral took place on May 29th at Faith. Please keep wife Mary and the Bush family in your prayers.

Summer Reading Suggestions

Here are three good books ideas for your summer reading: *The Screwtape Letters* by C.S. Lewis, *90 Minutes in Heaven* by Don Piper, and *The Shack* by William P. Young. All can be purchased at your local bookstore. A group has formed to meet on the following dates at 7 p.m. at church to discuss each of these books. For further information, see Pastor Jane. Please join us for lively discussion!

June 25 *The Screwtape Letters*; **July 30** *90 Minutes in Heaven*; **August 27** *The Shack*



Take a walk on the wild side at Kingdom of the Son VBS July 20-24, 2009

5 p.m. Light Family Supper, 5:45-8 p.m. Vacation Bible School at Faith Lutheran Church! During this spectacular prayer safari, kids will journey into the Serengeti — the magnificent grassland region of Tanzania and Kenya. They'll discover exotic animals, create safari crafts, play exciting games, sing upbeat songs and enjoy delicious safari snacks!

And while your kids are having safari fun, they'll also learn to talk to God as they explore the Lord's Prayer and go on an expedition into the pages of God's Word.

Take your kids on an unforgettable adventure this summer! It's the wildest VBS ever! It's Kingdom of the Son Prayer Safari. This safari adventure is for children entering kindergarten through 6th grade. Registration ends Monday, July 13, and the fee is \$10 per child (\$30 maximum per household).

BIBLE THEME: THE LORD'S PRAYER

Day 1: God listens! - Day 2: God provides! - Day 3: God forgives! - Day 4: God protects! - Day 5: God rules!

The Safari Search Is On! Help us make this safari adventure fun for the kids. We'd love to have moms, dads, grandparents and teens join our volunteer team. To learn more about our volunteer opportunities, contact Kathie Nichols (815-744-5132) or Marcia Johnson (815-582-4207).

Vacation Bible School Registration

Please complete, detach and return, along with \$10 per child (max. \$30 per family).



Mother's Name: _____ Father's Name: _____

Address, City, State, Zip: _____

Phone: (_____) _____

Church: _____ Member: Y N

Child's Name: _____ Sex: M F

Birth Date: _____ Age: _____ Entering School Grade: _____

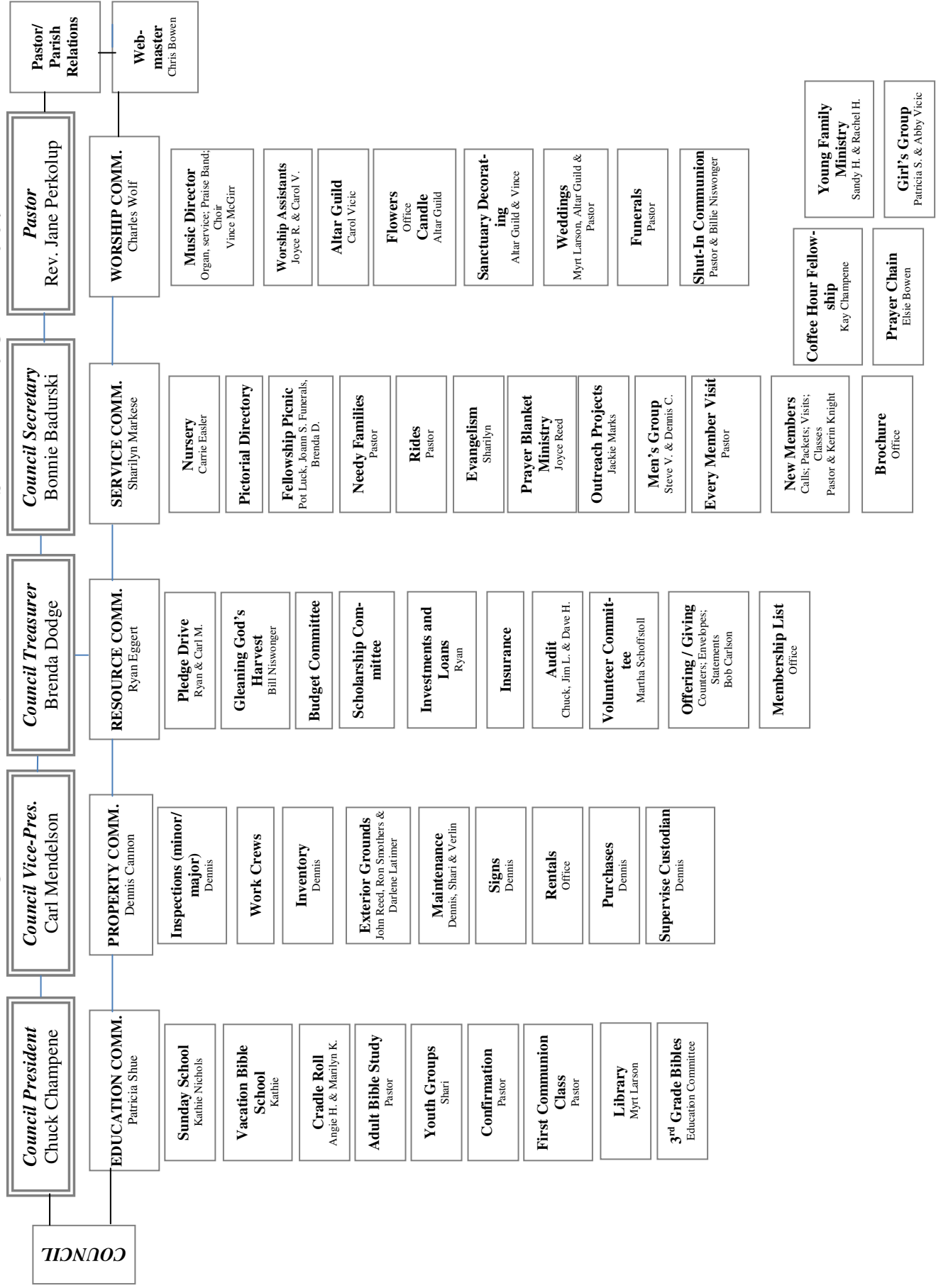
Child's Name: _____ Sex: M F

Birth Date: _____ Age: _____ Entering School Grade: _____

Child's Name: _____ Sex: M F

Birth Date: _____ Age: _____ Entering School Grade: _____

F A I T H L U T H E R A N L E A D E R S H I P -- J U L Y 2 0 0 9





Help Needed!

Our new dishwasher is going to provide us with countless benefits for many years to come. Although every effort was made to hold down costs, the dishwasher and accompanying installation ran approximately \$3000. While this cost may seem high, comparable units we looked at were running in the \$4500 range. Yet, with all the penny-pinching the team did, we went over budget with the purchase of the washing and rinsing chemicals necessary to

operate the dishwasher on a daily basis. Allow me to explain.

The wash chemical is a washing detergent that is pulled into the machine during the wash cycle. The rinse chemical is pulled into the machine during the rinse cycle. Its function is to allow the dishes to dry quickly at the end of the rinse cycle. Both chemicals come in cases of 4-1 gallon containers. Together, two cases of chemicals cost approximately \$370. However, we have been assured that this quantity of wash and rinse chemicals will probably meet our usage needs for one year or more.

Now that the details have been laid out, we would like to ask for any financial help you could give us to off-set the cost of these chemicals. If you would like to donate to this cause, please make out your checks to FAITH LUTHERAN CHURCH and note on the check that the money should go toward the dishwasher fund/chemicals.

Any assistance you can give would be appreciated. Thank you.

-Bill Niswonger

2009 Flower and Sanctuary Candles

Please choose some dates that are significant occasions in your life to share your remembrances and beautify our sanctuary for worship. Let's share our blessings!



Attention Coffee Hour Hostesses!

Please check the sign-up sheet on the door in Fellowship Hall.

Hopefully, you can pick a Sunday to provide coffee, juice, maybe some cookies or coffee cakes... whatever you choose!

We would love to have some people from the 10:30 service, as well!

Any questions, see Shar Markese.

Thank you so much to those who are already serving!

Pastoral Acts

Funeral: Jerry Lee Bush Sr.
May 29, 2009



We are aware of the following members of Faith Lutheran Church having birthdays in July. **GOD BLESS YOU** as you recall the day God first gave you life! If your birthday is omitted or incorrectly recorded, please let us know.

07/02 Cynthia Olson
Devin Ross
07/03 Zak Ratko
07/06 Ann Troha
07/08 Amanda Luthanen
Zoe Walsh
07/11 Gregory Severson
07/12 Lisa Goldfuss

07/13 Dennis Wills
07/15 Heather Hutten
07/17 Richard Engleman
Dave Prium
07/18 Rich Warsaw
07/19 Carla Wastalu
07/20 Ryan Wills
07/22 Darcy Bowen

07/24 Jennifer Meyers
Keegan Peretti
07/25 Donna Suski
Christopher Freitag
07/26 Bonnie Badurski
07/28 Claralee Little
07/29 Karl Schmitz



July 2009



**Have a
Safe and Happy
Independence Day!**

- * Vacation Bible School *
- * Gleaning God's Harvest *
- * Evening Vespers *
- * Prayer Blanket Ministry *

WORSHIP WITH US
8:30 Traditional Worship
10:30 Contemporary Worship

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

Faith Lutheran Church
353 N. Midland Ave.
Joliet, IL 60435
Mailing day June 25, 2009 - Please Recycle!