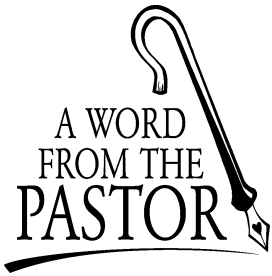


August 2009

Faith, Family & Fellowship

The monthly newsletter of Faith Lutheran Church



These are tough times!

The news is full of sky-rocketing medical costs. As I visit our elderly I hear quotes of exorbitant costs for medications and decisions made to do without. It's very sad when decisions regarding health are made based upon what one can afford rather than upon what one needs! With this slumping economy I've observed more and more "Me first - I've got to save myself" on the part of service industries and businesses, passing the problem onto the consumer. Home values are down which directly affects any efforts toward down-sizing. Jobs are lost with so many companies closing. A new simplistic life-style is being investigated by nearly everyone. Doing a "Stay-cation" rather than a Vacation is a popular trend. Working a few more years and retiring at a later date is a choice many have been forced to make. Buying less – recycling more is the norm. The big gas-guzzling vehicles are being traded-in on smaller, more economical modes of transportation.

"Tough Times" is nothing new. And, we certainly don't want to diminish the suffering and problems that face people throughout their lives. But, let's remember that we are "Resurrection People". The Great Giver of New Life that came to save us from the trials and tribulations of this world doesn't want us to interpret that gift as simply a ticket to Heaven! The New Life we are promised is here – today – as well. There ARE BLESSINGS in the midst of our tribulations. Simplicity of life-style means spending more time with the *people* around us, families and friends. Down-sizing can mean appreciating what we *have*, rather than searching for fulfillment with material goods. And when we see someone else suffering, *sharing* what we have with them, be it goods, services, our time, or simply a listening ear is not only up-lifting to them, but it has a tendency to bless us, in return. Going *green* by cutting waste and reducing costly chemicals that are convenient but harm our environment is certainly a posture that God favors. *Eating* less, healthier, fresher, and even growing our own produce organically has great benefit to our health; and sharing our garden surplus extends that to others.

Our recent Yard Sale was such a BLESSING! Goods were recycled. So many in the congregation worked very hard, spending time together. Our children will have many happy childhood memories riding scooters and bicycles through the narthex and eating free pizza! We got to meet and greet the community... and the community had an opportunity to benefit from our efforts and get to know the people of Faith. And, our struggling budget was blessed by over \$3000.

'Tis true – times ARE tough right now. But if we LOOK for the blessings, if we try to BE a blessing in the lives of others; and, if we cling to the knowledge that the road to serenity, peace, and happiness is not paved with dollars but with something quite different... we'll all get through.

God's blessings,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Pastor Jane".

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*

2009 Northern Illinois Synod Assembly

Attending a Northern Illinois Synod Assembly for the first time in my life was a truly great experience. Although every moment of the two-day event was tightly scheduled and we were exhausted by the end of the second day, I am very glad that I could be a part of it.

The business sessions were interesting and important, and I was aware of the responsibility of casting my vote on significant issues. But best of all was worshipping with several hundred others. The services were absolutely beautiful and uplifting, and the music and singing were great. Our presiding bishop, Mark Hansen, is a master speaker, preacher and teacher. His messages were at times moving, at times funny, and always spiritually uplifting.

I thank the members of Faith for allowing me the opportunity to attend. The Holy Spirit was obviously at work with us as we focused on "God's work. Our hands."

Bonnie Badurski

It was a privilege to attend the synod assembly at Augustana College in June. One of the highlights of the assembly was hearing Bishop Hanson presentation, "We Live at the Intersection of Fear and Hope." Declining ELCA membership is worrisome, but Bishop Hanson encourages us to witness to our neighbors and coworkers — and not to be shy about it! Also addressing the assembly, Rev. Dr. Richard Klein, Old Testament scholar, spoke on Genesis 15.

The ordination service was uplifting. Kyle Severson was assisting minister, and served on the worship committee planning both the Friday evening and Saturday morning services. I am so happy he was able to participate as a Faith delegate this year.

There were opportunities to attend presentations on stewardship, congregational leadership, global mission, youth, and outreach. I chose to attend an exercise session of *Stretch and Pray* with Pastor Jane, and a Lutheran Social Services of Illinois program on the state budget and suggested tax increases. I am an LSSI advocate, and encourage you to look into their many efforts. Sadly, many of those they serve are in jeopardy of losing the benefits they need to live productively. Please keep these folks in your prayers.

God's Peace,

Patricia Shue

Aside from the informative workshops, uplifting worship, Bible study and opportunities for connections with other churches and church leaders; the focus of public attention for this year's assembly goes to the Recommended Proposed Social Statement "Human Sexuality; Gift and Trust" and the task force recommendations for implementation. A vote favoring the right of individual congregations to ordain gay, lesbian and cross-gendered persons in committed relationships was passed as well as accompanying guidelines. These recommendations have been forwarded to the up-coming ELCA Church-wide Assembly.

Recently Northern Illinois Bishop Wollersheim sent a letter to the churches that I believe uplifts the journey and struggles of God's people relating to this issue. I've put several copies of that letter in the narthex as well as a copy on the church bulletin board. Please pray for wisdom and discernment for our ELCA and voting delegates to the Nationwide Assembly to be held in Minneapolis August 17-23. Also please feel free to communicate with your members who attended this year's assembly: lay delegates Bonnie Badurski, Kyle Severson; clergy delegate Pastor Jane and visitor Patricia Shue.

Pastor Jane Perkolup

HYMNS OF PRAISE (Part One)

When you become an expert at something, you have a tendency to become fascinated by the details. In fifty-some years as a church musician, I have sung or played possibly several thousand hymns, and I generally take time to learn about the music I perform. Well, one Sunday a few months ago, Vince McGirr and I were in the choir room earnestly discussing the merits of certain hymns. A valued choir member who is not, alas, a trained musician came in, overheard our conversation, and chuckled. "What's the difference? They're all just church songs," he said. That, to me, was sort of like asking an avid fisherman why he cares what kinds of fish he catches, or telling a stamp collector that those little bits of paper look pretty much the same.

So, without meaning any disrespect to anyone, I would like to introduce you to some words – "hymnody" and "hymnology." "Hymnody" refers to the collective hymns of a specific religions, place, or period. "Hymnology" is the study of hymns, their history, classification, and so forth. Yes, folks, there are actually some people who study hymns!

And what is a hymn, anyway? Webster's says it is a song of praise to God, or a metrical composition adapted for singing in a religious service. Often, I think of it as a religious poem set to music. It may be based on a biblical text, but it doesn't have to be — as long as the theologians approve of what it says.

Hymns, you know, are an important part of the church service, and they have been around for a very long time. According to the Gospels of Matthew and Mark, the disciples sang a hymn at the conclusion of the Last Supper, before they went out to the Mount of Olives (Matthew 26:30; Mark 14:26). Unfortunately, we don't know what that hymn was. Its words are not recorded, and in ancient times there was no generally accepted system of music notation.

By the Middle Ages, things started to improve. Monks, preachers and other religious teachers began to write down their hymn verses. Because monastic choirs often performed the same music for repeated occasions, the system of lines and spaces was developed to guide choir directors in performing the appropriate music. That system was perfected in the Renaissance, and with a few tweaks, it is with us today.

Anyway, the earliest hymns that we have are from the Middle Ages. Most of us know the Advent carol O Come, O Come, Immanuel. That dates back to around the eighth century and was written down in the twelfth century. It was updated a bit in the nineteenth century, but it kept those long, sweeping musical lines that are sometimes called plainsong or plain chant. Another really ancient hymn is one often used in Holy Week, Of the Glorious Body Telling. With words by Thomas Aquinas, its melody dates back possibly to sixth century France. Also in Holy Week, we sing The Royal Banners Forward Go, originally medieval French, in revised form from Salisbury, England. We Lutherans don't do much plainsong these days, as it's thought that the tunes are too difficult for congregations to sing. But I happen to like them because they help me to feel a unity with early Christians.

The Renaissance also gave us some fine hymns. I suggest The Strife Is O'er, by G. P. Palestrina, and All Praise to Thee, My God, This Night by Thomas Tallis, both sixteenth century.

Next we come to the Reformation, but I've run out of space. Hymnody is a huge topic, and I intend to write more about it in future articles. In the meantime, keep singing!

Charles R. Wolf
Chair, Worship Committee



Our church is blessed with so many talented people! It is awesome to have **Sharilyn Markese** as our new Service Committee Chair. She is a dynamic addition to both the Church Council and the committee. Welcome aboard, Shar!

I would like to give a **BIG THANKS** to **Bill Niswonger** for all he did in getting our new dishwasher. All of the research and legwork was quite an undertaking, and we all sure appreciate his wonderful work!

My two years as Service Committee Chair proved to be such a fun and rewarding learning experience. I truly enjoyed working with all the terrific ladies on the committee! You were always there to help in any way you could - I can't thank you all enough. It has been a pleasure and I look forward to serving with you in the future on other endeavors.

Thank you all again,

Joann Smothers, Past Service Committee Chair

Service Committee News

The Service Committee met at 12:30 on July 15 with eight members present. Current projects were discussed. The soap collection will be completed by August 1. Jackie Marks reported that Shayne is continuing to collect pledges for the Susan Komen Breast Cancer Walk. Pledge sheets are available in the narthex and can be made online.



We will be providing 14 school supply filled backpacks to needy children from the area in August. The supply list is printed in this newsletter. Please bring items by August 20.

The date of the church picnic was chosen. September 13, our church's birthday and Sunday School Rally day. More information will be available soon.

The next **Service Committee meeting** will be Wednesday, August 5 at 12 noon. Lunch will be provided.

Please remember:

✓ Bar Soap for Lutheran World Relief by 08/01

✓ Cancer Walk pledges by 08/07

✓ Back pack items by 08/20

✓ Church Picnic set for 09/13

Respectfully Submitted,

Sharilyn Markese, Service Committee Chair

Evening Vespers

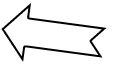
Mark your calendar for 6 p.m.
Tuesday evening, **August 18**
at Faith Lutheran for evening vespers in
English/Spanish with our friends from
First Lutheran & Santa Cruz.
Following the brief service, we will gather
for a shared pot luck meal.
Please join us for fellowship with our
neighboring congregation.

Thank you...

to **Charles & Joy Wolf**
and **Ryan & Christina Eggert**
for their generosity in securing a freezer
for the church kitchen;
to **John Reed** and **Ron Smothers**
for the electrical work,
and to **Verlin & Shari Johnson**
for assisting with delivery.



Fall Worship Schedule resumes on September 6... 8:30 traditional worship, 11:00 contemporary worship, 9:30 coffee fellowship, 10:00 Adult Forum & Choir




Save the Date!
**CHURCH PICNIC &
 SUNDAY SCHOOL RALLY**
 September 13

Girl's Group
 August 4th, 7 p.m.
 All post-confirmation girls are invited!

Book Study Group
 Thursday, August 27 at 7 p.m.
 will be discussing
The Shack
 by William P. Young

CROPWALK RECRUITER RALLY
 AUGUST 26, 7P.M.
 FELLOWSHIP HALL



Thank You

Merci

Dielen Dank

Origado!

Special thanks
 to all those who volunteered time and donated items for our Church Yard Sale which took place June 27 & 28. Due to your overwhelming support the sale was a **HUGE SUCCESS!** We netted a **WHOPPING \$3,136** (\$2436 yard sale; \$700 Sox tickets) for the general fund.

Also, congratulations to Rhonda Partyka of Joliet, the lucky winner of our Sox Tickets Raffle.


Köszönettel

Jan Bolm, wife of former Pastor Hal Bolm, recently suffered a stroke. Their address is:

Hal & Jan Bolm
 366 Fir Lane
 Petersburg, FL 62675



Please bring in bar soap for Lutheran World Relief. A collection basket is provided in the narthex. All bar sizes are accepted; however, bath-size bars (4-5 oz.) are highly preferred.



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 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.

Life is fragile - handle with prayer...
 To start up the Prayer Telephone Machine, call Elsie at 815-725-4373 or go to www.faithjoliet.com and email your prayer requests.





Be sure to bring the family to
 Young Family Ministries'
 "Water Works" Summer Bash
 & Pizza Party!



SATURDAY, August 15, 1-3 p.m.
 Together we will enjoy a fun-filled afternoon
 in the sun with pizza, water play
 (...YES... there will be water balloons!),
 games, and good company!!
 All smiling faces welcome!



Your RSVP is kindly requested.
 Please call the church office at 815-725-4213,
 or Rachel Hornsby at 815-712-8075.



Our study continues...

Join us for Bible Study
 Tuesdays at 10 a.m.



Coffee Hour Hostesses Needed

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

Any questions, see Shar Markese.

Thank you so much to those who are already serving!



Hymnals Available

We have quite a few green Hymnals left
 that we no longer use in our worship services,
 as well as a few older red ones from years past.
 If you would like to have a Hymnal for your
 home, please take one. They are located
 on the small table as you enter Lippoldt Hall.

We are thankful to have received
 a memorial donation in memory of
 Jerry Lee Bush Sr.
 to the general fund.

2009 Flower and Sanctuary Candles

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



We are aware of the following members of Faith Lutheran Church having birthdays
 in August. **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.

08/03 Branden Ferro
 Cheri Ann Martin
 08/06 Austin Knight
 08/07 Thomas Pemble
 08/10 Erika Mendelson
 Kara Steffen
 08/11 Benjamin Larson

08/12 Krista Pruim
 08/14 Heather Mendelson
 08/16 Virginia Alander
 08/17 Vicky Carlson
 Shayne Davila
 Bob Larson
 Bob Rys

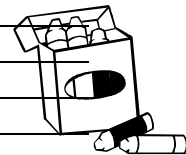
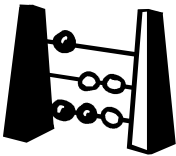
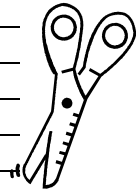
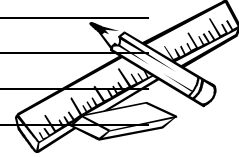
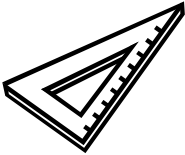
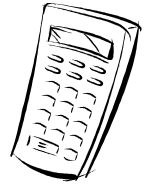
08/19 Phillip Burroughs
 Kyle Hochevar
 08/21 Abby Vicic
 08/22 Cheyenne Hoogstra
 Daniel Requena
 08/28 Leslie Little
 08/31 Corey Alonso



SCHOOL SUPPLIES - AUGUST 2009

QTY. ITEM

2 ea.	Binders, 3-ring, 1"
2 ea.	Binders, 3-ring, 2"
6 ea.	Boxes, plastic storage, 5x8 snap lid
2 ea.	Calculator, scientific, Texas Instruments TI 30Xa
2 ea.	Compass
8 ea.	Composition book, 100 pg, marble cover preferred
14 bxs.	Crayons, box of 24
8 ea.	Dividers, 5-tab 3-hole punched
4 ea.	Eraser, gum
2 ea.	Erasers, dry erase board
6 pkgs.	Erasers, pencil top
12 ea.	Erasers, pink
2 ea.	Folder, 13-pocket expandable accordion-style
8 ea.	Folders, laminated, pocketed
12 ea.	Folders, plastic, pocketed, 3 ea. blue, green, red, yellow
60 ea.	Folders, pocketed, assorted colors
8 ea.	Glue, 4oz. Bottles
25 ea.	Glue Sticks, large (.77 oz.)
22 ea.	Glue Sticks, small
10 bxs.	Markers, Crayola Classic Colors, broad tip
6 bxs.	Markers, Crayola Classic Colors, fine point
12 pks/4	Markers, dry erase, black, thick point
4 pkgs.	Markers, dry erase, in black, blue, green, red
40 ea.	Markers, highlighter, 12 yellow/4 pink/24 assorted colors
8 ea.	Markers, Sharpie permanent, black, ultra-fine point
2 ea.	Memory stick, 256 mb
10 ea.	Notebooks, 3-subject, assorted colors, no black
2 ea.	Notebooks, 5-subject
50 ea.	Notebooks, spiral, wide-ruled 70 pg. Two each red, blue, orange, yellow, green, purple. No black, please.
10 ea.	Paint, water colors (with eight colors)
10 pks.	Paper, loose leaf 3-hole punched, 100 sheets wide-ruled
12 pks.	Paper, loose leaf 3-hole punched, 150 sheets wide-ruled
6 ea.	Pencil cases, soft sided with zipper
18 doz.	Pencils, #2 with erasers
12 bxs/12	Pencils, colored
4 ea.	Pencils, red lead
12 ea.	Pens, black or blue ink, Erasermate erasable
16 ea.	Pens, black med. point
16 ea.	Pens, blue med. Point
4 ea.	Pens, gel ink
26 ea.	Pens, red ink
21 pads	Post-it notes, 3x3, 100 sheet
2 ea.	Protractor
10 ea.	Ruler, plastic (incl. inches & cm)
14 ea.	Scissors
6 ea.	Student pocket dictionary
2 ea.	Student pocket thesaurus
6 rolls	Tape, Scotch transparent



14 bxs.	Bags, Ziploc gallon size	2 rolls	Paper towels
10 bxs.	Bags, Ziploc quart size	13 pks.	Wipes, Clorox sanitizing
4 bxs.	Bags, Ziploc sandwich size	10 pks.	Wipes, Wet Ones hand/face
26 bxs.	Facial Tissue (Kleenex)		Old shirts for art smocks
6 ea.	Hand Sanitizer		Old socks for board erasers

Please bring your items to the church by **August 20** so we can sort and deliver them.
Thank you in advance for your generosity!
-Service Committee

