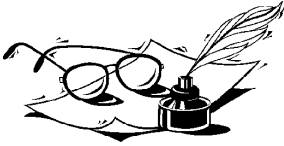


September 2009

# Faith, Family & Fellowship

The monthly newsletter of Faith Lutheran Church

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## From the Pastor's desk . . .

As we look toward the month of September we are reminded of the age-old tradition called "Back to School." Our youngsters (and parents) embrace this event with much enthusiasm as the boredom of summer has overtaken our children. "I have nothing to do" can now be replaced with shopping trips to the mall for new clothing and school supplies. Junior high students worry about finding their lockers, racing down the halls to find their new classrooms and reconnecting with friends. Fall sports practices have already begun for many of our high school students and arranging for rides and class schedules seem to take on greater proportions. For those headed off to college, possibly moving, maneuvering around the book store, and the enticement of new friendships and horizons come into view. And, for everyone, "back to school" is a reminder that growth – physical, intellectual, social, emotional and spiritual is an ever-present reality.

In infancy, many of us were brought to the baptismal font to receive the gift of entrance into the Christian community of believers, even though we didn't have a clue as to the magnitude of this event. As young children in the church, children's sermons, Sunday School, Vacation Church School, children's Bibles and storybooks lead the way to faith in God. Early prayers help us to understand that God is listening and connected to us in a very special way. At some point, we choose to Commune and begin the process of understanding what Communion means in the life of a Christian. Two years in Confirmation class introduces us to the Bible and what distinguishes us, as Lutherans. And yet, this is just the beginning of our faith journey and relationship with God.

As adults in the church through Sunday worship we are exposed to a variety of readings from Holy Scripture, we listen to sermons, and all of us experience the "school of hard knocks" as we make choices that lead us into relationships (both good and bad) and situations producing both joys and tragedy. Often it is the very hurts that send us running to God that become for us the greatest times of character building and growth. Here at Faith Lutheran we offer many opportunities for continued spiritual growth: Sunday Adult Forum, Tuesday morning Bible Study, Saturday morning Men's Ministry Group, as well as intermittent Book Study groups and Bible Studies. One thing for certain, we have a loving God who continually seeks us out calling us to grow spiritually in new ways as we journey toward Him throughout our lifetime. In God's wisdom and generosity, we are never too old to learn more – in fact, God invites each one of us to come closer in our knowledge and understanding of God. And so, you are invited, to come "Back to School" here at Faith Lutheran. Hope to see you soon.

God's blessings,

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

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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 Report*

The Caring Committee would like to thank everyone for the overwhelming response to our soap and school supply collections! The soap is packed up and ready to be loaded on the Lutheran World Relief truck. The school supplies will be sorted and delivered before the start of the school year.

The committee is now planning the Annual Church Picnic. Food, fun and fellowship are on the agenda! Table service, fried chicken, hot dogs and drinks will be provided. Please bring your lawn chairs, a dish to pass, a hearty appetite... and be sure to reserve time for games, Bingo, a sing-along and Praise Band entertainment!

The **Evangelism Committee** held it's initial meeting at the church on August 5. We assessed our church's needs, and will continue to focus on our future. Our next meeting will be on September 2 at 6:30 p.m. at the church.

The next **Caring Committee meeting** will be Wednesday, September 2 at noon. We welcome new members at any time. Lunch will be provided, and we will be finalizing plans for the church picnic.

Respectfully Submitted,

*Sharilyn Markese*, Service Committee Chair

## Resource Committee News, By Ryan Eggert

### • **Scholarship Winners**

We were blessed this year with a total of 12 applicants for the scholarships we offer here at Faith. Our memorial scholarships are for those who regularly attend here at Faith. There are three different kinds of scholarships for the Helen M. Valentine Scholarship. There is a Medicine, Nursing, and Seminarian Scholarship available through this fund. This year we had 10 applicants for the Memorial Scholarships and two applicants for the Valentine Seminarian Scholarship. Congratulations to all of our scholarship winners:

Susan Martens Memorial Scholarship: Derek Schmitz

Lois Meyer Memorial Scholarship: Amy Henry

Faith Lutheran Memorial Scholarship: Samantha Bohne; Kyle Hochevar; Ryan Wills; Amanda Luthanen  
Charlotte Cannon; Bryan Bertani; Jeffrey Schmitz; Abby Vivic

Helen M. Valentine Seminarian Scholarship: Timothy Maybee; Ryan Ferwerda

### • **Resource Committee Schedule**

We have set a regular meeting for the Resource Committee to be on the 1<sup>st</sup> Thursday of each month at 7:15 p.m. Please come and help us make important recommendations to council as they relate to the Resources (not just financial) of our congregation. We would like to have our Stewardship drive for 2010 during the fall so we are going to start right away with planning and action for this important aspect of the committee. Please email [ryaneggert@msn.com] or call me [815-302-5362] if you think you would be interested in helping serve. We can talk about which of the many tasks would be interesting to you.

### • **Quarterly Statements**

Quarterly Giving Statements are now available for pickup on Sunday mornings in the Narthex. Please be sure to review your statement. In the event correction is needed please email Vicki in the church office at [faithnews1@sbcglobal.net] or call [815-725-4213] weekdays between 9am & 1pm.

## HYMNS OF PRAISE (Part Two)

Last month I started writing about Christian hymnody – the hymns of the church. We got as far as the Renaissance, and then I had to stop. Before I go on, I want to teach you something. If you have a copy of Evangelical Lutheran Worship handy, open it to any hymn. Look at the fine print just below the hymn. That's what I'm interested in.

On the left, it says "text." It tells you who wrote the words, or if they're anonymous, it says what book they came from. Below that, it says "music." This tells you who the composer was, or if unknown, where the tune came from. Now look on the right. There's a word or phrase in capital letters. That's the name of the tune, which is usually different from the name of the hymn! That's because a hymn text can be set to different hymn tunes. The secret is to match the *meter*, that set of numbers under the name of the tune. So if a four-line tune had eight beats per line, and a religious poem of four lines had eight syllables per line, you could match that poem to that tune.

Let me show you. Open the red hymnal to number 504. That's our beloved Lutheran hymn, A Mighty Fortress. The words and music are both by Martin Luther. On the right, it says the hymn tune is called EIN FESTE BURG. It has nine lines, and its meter is 878766667. The text has a line of eight syllables – A migh-ty for-tress is our God – then one of seven syllables, then eight, then seven, and so on. So the words fit the tune. But now, flip over to 509, God's Word Is Our Great Heritage. It has exactly the same meter as 504, and it's sung to the same tune, EIN FESTE BURG. (Sometimes you wouldn't want to sing a familiar hymn to a different tune, but that's another story.)

Protestant hymnody developed rapidly in the Reformation period. The idea of a decentralized church where all believers were ministers meant to the reformers that the people had to participate actively in the worship service. Congregational hymn-singing was an excellent way to do that. In those early years, pastors and theologians wrote lots of hymn verses, and they were set to music by composers such as Johann Cruger (1598-1662), Hans Leo Hassler (1564-1612) and Michael Praetorius (1571-1621). Later, J. S. Bach reworked and harmonized many of these tunes. The German hymns of the Reformation were called "chorales," and they form the backbone of our Lutheran hymnody. Some of the better-known hymns from that period are Now Thank We All Our God; Jesu, Joy of Man's Desiring; Ye Watchers and Ye Holy Ones; Wake, Awake for Night Is Flying; O Morning Star, How Fair and Bright; and Ah, Holy Jesus. Not all Lutheran chorales originated in church: Dear Christians, One and All, Rejoice started out as a German folk song, and In Thee Is Gladness was an Italian dance tune.

Today, our hymnal contains a large number of German chorales, not all of them completely familiar. But the Reformation prompted hymn-writing in other countries, too. From the Dutch, we get We Praise You, O God and This Joyful Eastertide; from the Swedes, Prepare the Royal Highway and How Marvelous God's Greatness; from the Danes, Around You, O Lord Jesus; and probably others should be mentioned, but I am once again out of space. This is a great story, and it needs to be continued!

As you may know, summer schedule ends the first week in September, and the Senior Choir debuts on September 13. Together, we will have many opportunities to sing the great hymns of our Lutheran Church.

Charles R. Wolf  
Chair, Worship Committee



**Attention all 7th & 8th graders!**  
**CONFIRMATION is coming.**

Parents, please call the church office if you have a child entering the 7th or 8th grades so we can include all children in the registration process. 815-725-4213.

Interested in Membership?

A new class is forming!  
Please call the church office to enroll or for further information.

*Men's Breakfast*  
*September 12, 8-10 a.m.*

**Adult Forum begins**  
**Sept. 13, 10 a.m.**

09/13 - Bring your ideas!  
09/20 - Overview of the Prophets  
09/27 - Prophets, session 2

September 25  
Illinois Council of Churches  
Annual Assembly  
at Faith Lutheran

CROPWALK OCTOBER 4

WALKERS, SPONSORS  
& HELPERS NEEDED.



HELP FEED THE HUNGRY IN OUR MIDST.

♪ **Senior Choir resumes** ♪  
**Sunday, September 13**

♪ The Senior Choir begins its 13th season ♪  
on Sept. 13 with rehearsal at 8 a.m.  
and practice following the service at 10 a.m.

A cordial invitation is extended to all those  
♪ who love to sing and praise the Lord ♪  
through the ministry of music.

We are a fun-loving group and always  
welcome new members! Please join us!

For more info please see our

Music Director, Vince.



*Dear Members and Friends of Faith,*

*My family and I were truly overwhelmed by your many heartfelt expressions of sympathy upon the passing of Scotty – your prayers, cards, monetary gifts to Faith and to me, food donations and preparations for the luncheon, the prayer blanket, and in so many other ways.*

*You helped us through a very difficult time. Scotty, myself and our family have been truly blessed over the many years we've been members of Faith. Sharing in the Love of God has strengthened me in so many ways – thank you one and all!*

*I would like to offer special thanks to Pastor Jane and to Vince McGirr for the time they spent with us. Pastor's comforting words and Vince's glorious music will stay with us always.*

*God's Blessings,  
Elsie Bowen and Family*

## Fall Worship Schedule resumes on September 6...

**8:30 Traditional Worship, Coffee Fellowship at 9:30**  
**11:00 Contemporary Worship, Coffee Fellowship at 10:45**

**September 13 - 10:00 Adult Forum,  
Choir Rehearsal**

**September 20 - Sunday School resumes  
10:00 Adult Forum,  
Teen Forum,  
Choir Rehearsal**



*New at 10:45 a.m.  
Coffee Fellowship!  
Please join us!*



## Faith's Annual Church Picnic & Sunday School Rally Day

**September 13, following the 11:00 service**

Music!

Games!

**Come one, Come all!  
Join us for food, fellowship and fun!**

Prizes!

Good Food!

**Table service, fried chicken, hot dogs, and drinks provided.**

**Please bring your lawn chairs and a dish to pass.**

Bingo!

Sing-Alongs!

Family Fun!

Fellowship!

### Evening Vespers

Mark your calendar for 6 p.m.  
Tuesday evening, **September 15**  
at 1st 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.



### *Attention Men of Faith*

*We hope you have enjoyed your summer! Men's Breakfast will  
resume on **Saturday, September 12 from 8-10 a.m.***

*Please join us for a fabulous breakfast, uplifting worship  
& Bible Study. **Bring a friend!***

*This group is for men of all ages - young and old alike.  
Hope to see you there!*

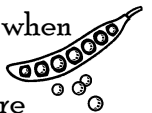


*Too many TOMATOES?*

*Zillions of ZUCCHINI?*

*Proliferation of PEPPERS?*

As Mother Nature would have it,  
many of us reach a point every summer when  
our gardens produce more than  
our households can use. While we are  
certainly thankful for these blessings,  
one can only eat so many kohlrabi -- right?



So... For the remainder of the growing season,  
we are pleased to announce  
the return of Faith's  
**VEGETABLE & PRODUCE  
EXCHANGE.**



A table has been provided in the  
church foyer, and we invite you  
bring in your surplus  
homegrown goodies to share  
and swap with others!

**ENJOY!**







## 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](http://www.faithjoliet.com)



### Blessings

We are thankful to have received a most generous  
Memorial Donation in memory of our beloved  
brother in Christ, Scott Bowen. The family has  
designated this gift, in the amount of \$1,530 to  
date, to the general fund to be used to further our  
ministries of Jesus Christ.

**QUARTERLY GIVING STATEMENTS**  
ARE AVAILABLE FOR PICKUP IN THE NARTHEX  
ON SUNDAY MORNINGS.  
PLEASE HELP TO REDUCE MAILING EXPENSES  
AND PICKUP YOUR STATEMENT TODAY!  
IF THERE ARE ANY QUESTIONS,  
PLEASE CONTACT VICKI (FRONT OFFICE)  
FROM 9AM-1 PM MONDAY-FRIDAY.

Please keep in your thoughts and prayers  
the families of the following members  
who went to be with our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ:

Oleta Menzer, July 21, funeral in California  
Scott Bowen, July 28, funeral at Faith Lutheran  
Francis “Bud” Stroh, July 29, funeral at Faith/Dames



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!

### 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 September. **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.

09/02	Kathryne Niswonger	09/09	Darlene Lattimer	09/16	Deanna Carlson	09/26	Pastor Jane Perkolup
	Jaymz Pritchett		Maribeth Cooper	09/19	Eva Stobbe		Manuel Alonso
09/05	Ryan Hirsch	09/10	Nancy Glenn	09/20	Shari Johnson	09/27	Joann Smothers
	Aleksander Stobbe		Brittney Schmitz	09/22	Myrt Larson	09/28	Sharene Parini
09/07	Ella Pool	09/13	William Riemer		Mary Sue Bush	09/29	Sharon Swiderski
	Carol Vicic	09/14	Mike Hare	09/23	Penny Podlenski		
09/08	Hannelore Richweiss		Sandy Hoogstra		Jennifer Wills		
	Trevor Martin		Jessica Kautz	09/26	Eleanora Fleischer		

