



*I have come  
looking for fruit*

LUKE 13:7

# FAITHFUL LUTHERANS SENT BY CHRIST TO SERVE GOD'S CHILDREN

March. 7, 2010

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# FAITH LUTHERAN CHURCH

www.flcjeff.org  
2014 Allison Lane  
Jeffersonville, Indiana  
Rev. Scott Meier, Pastor  
282-6993 (Office) ♦ 260-273-1250 (Pastor)

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## **WELCOME!**

All are welcome at Faith Lutheran Church today as we continue our journey of faith. Join with us as we offer our praises to God. We offer Holy Communion each Sunday. All baptized persons who believe that Christ is truly present in this meal are welcome to receive the Lord's Supper. There is a nursery available for those who need it. A red Fellowship Pad is at the end of each pew, please pass it down the pew so everyone can sign for the day, this helps us know visitors and have vital information

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The Flowers today were given to the glory of God by Patti Smith in celebration of Christopher's & Mike's birthday this month.

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## LAST WEEK AT FAITH:

### OFFERINGS:

Current	\$ <b>2995.44</b>
Other	\$ <u>60.00</u>
Total	\$ 3055.44

### ATTENDANCE:

Worship	98
Nursery	<u>3</u>
	101

We need at least \$3236.00 in **current** each week to continue the missions of our church. How did we do last week? Thanks to all who worship, work, give, and pray at Faith in thanks to God for His many blessings.

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## SERVING THIS WEEK AT FAITH:

Pastor ... Scott Meier	Acolyte.. Davis Jancosek
Assistant... Carol Taylor	Crucifer.. Samantha McCoy
Organist... Barb Brewster	Greeters.. E. & F. Peter
Fin. Asst... Nicole Parish	Social.. E. & F. Peter
Nursery .....Lisa Peter	Audio.. Jim Hegenbarth
Altar Guild..Arlys Johnson & Vivian Smith	
Ushers... Fred & Tami Czerwonka, Mike Vescelus, Dave Lindemann	

**Next week:** Assistant; B. Haire , Crucifer; Volunteer Acolyte; Volunteer Greeters; Volunteer Social; Klemens, Audio; J. Hegenbarth

## Events & Activities This Week Around Faith:

Today, Mar. 7	9:15 am	Sunday Church School
	10:30 am	Worship After; Coffee Fellowship Youth, Property, Choir & Visitation team meet
	4:00 pm	Faithful Losers
Tues., Mar. 9	9:00 am	Weekday Church School
	7:00 pm	WELCA Wheadon Circle
Wed., Mar. 10	10:00 am	WELCA SonShine circle
	6:00 pm	Lenten Dinner
	7:00 pm	Lenten Service
	7:30 pm	Confirmation
Thurs., Mar.11	9:00 am	Weekday Church School
	2:00 pm	Bible Study
Fri., Mar. 12		<i>April Newsletter Articles Due</i>
Sat., Mar 13	8:30 am	Synod Workshop
Sun., Mar. 14	9:15 am	Sunday Church School
	10:30 am	Worship After; Coffee Fellowship Council Meets

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## REMEMBER IN YOUR PRAYERS:

Betty McLaughlin Billie Williams Dorothy Clerici Barbara Sorenson

Our Service Men & women and all those in need of our thoughts and prayers in our Faith Family and beyond.

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## Announcements

**PROPERTY TEAM:** There will be a brief meeting following the worship service for the property team

**GIRL SCOUT SUNDAY:** Today is Girl Scout Sunday. Thanks to those scouts that helped our ushers this morning. We are glad they are with us this morning..

**LENTEN DINNERS:** WELCA is once again sponsoring a dinner prior to the Wednesday Lenten Services. Please watch for a sign-up sheet in the Narthex so our ladies know how many to prepare for.

**VISITATION TEAM:** This team will hold it's first meeting today following the worship service. This team will work in conjunction with Pastor and Council in making visits to those needed. Anyone interested is encouraged to attend.

**BIBLE STUDY:** Pastor is leading the Bible Study once again on Thursday afternoon at 2:00. See Pastor for more information



**FIRST READING:** Isaiah 55:1-9 [not printed]

**Psalms 63:1-8**

**SECOND READING:** 1 Corinthians 10:1-13

I do not want you to be unaware, brothers and sisters, that our ancestors were all under the cloud, and all passed through the sea, <sup>2</sup>and all were baptized into Moses in the cloud and in the sea, <sup>3</sup>and all ate the same spiritual food, <sup>4</sup>and all drank the same spiritual drink. For they drank from the spiritual rock that followed them, and the rock was Christ. <sup>5</sup>Nevertheless, God was not pleased with most of them, and they were struck down in the wilderness.

<sup>6</sup>Now these things occurred as examples for us, so that we might not desire evil as they did. <sup>7</sup>Do not become idolaters as some of them did; as it is written, "The people sat down to eat and drink, and they rose up to play." <sup>8</sup>We must not indulge in sexual immorality as some of them did, and twenty-three thousand fell in a single day. <sup>9</sup>We must not put Christ to the test, as some of them did, and were destroyed by serpents. <sup>10</sup>And do not complain as some of them did, and were destroyed by the destroyer. <sup>11</sup>These things happened to them to serve as an example, and they were written down to instruct us, on whom the ends of the ages have come. <sup>12</sup>So if you think you are standing, watch out that you do not fall. <sup>13</sup>No testing has overtaken you that is not common to everyone. God is faithful, and he will not let you be tested beyond your strength, but with the testing he will also provide the way out so that you may be able to endure it.

**GOSPEL:** Luke 13:1-9

At that very time there were some present who told him about the Galileans whose blood Pilate had mingled with their sacrifices. <sup>2</sup>Jesus asked them, "Do you think that because these Galileans suffered in this way they were worse sinners than all other Galileans? <sup>3</sup>No, I tell you; but unless you repent, you will all perish as they did. <sup>4</sup>Or those eighteen who were killed when the tower of Siloam fell on them—do you think that they were worse offenders than all the others living in Jerusalem? <sup>5</sup>No, I tell you; but unless you repent, you will all perish just as they did."

<sup>6</sup>Then he told this parable: "A man had a fig tree planted in his vineyard; and he came looking for fruit on it and found none. <sup>7</sup>So he said to the gardener, 'See here! For three years



## Re-gifting

God gives us gifts so that, like the fig tree in Jesus' parable (Luke 13:6-9), we might bear fruit. These gifts take many forms. Some are dramatic: the cancer goes into remission, the addiction is acknowledged and faced. Sometimes God's gifts are more common: gifts of friends and family, home and work. All people are blessed by God with talents and abilities. All gifts from God share this in common: God's gifts are never an end, they are always a beginning.

Healed, you discover new opportunities to experience life, and new opportunities to serve in the name of Jesus. Sobriety is a blessing to the individual, but it can also bring healing to families and allow people to discover a calling to help others on their journey towards sobriety.

Financial blessings from God allow people to provide for their families, to purchase food, clothing, and shelter. Through those same blessings you experience the joy of generosity. The varied gifts from God bless you in many ways, but if God's gifts are received and never touch another life, something is missing.

Jesus is a gift sent from God. One of the many gifts he brings is the gift of forgiveness. Forgiven by Jesus we forgive others. It is a gift we are called to re-gift, for forgiveness comes to us as a beginning, leading to countless more gifts. Re-gifting the ugly sweater you were given last Christmas might not be appreciated, but re-gifting God's gifts is always a grace-filled act. Consider all that God has blessed you with, and pray for guidance. May you re-gift forgiveness and mercy, may you re-gift joy and compassion, may you re-gift your talents and your treasures. By re-gifting, you bear fruit to the glory of God.

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*Gospel, continued*

I have come looking for fruit on this fig tree, and still I find none. Cut it down! Why should it be wasting the soil?' <sup>8</sup>He replied, 'Sir, let it alone for one more year, until I dig around it and put manure on it. <sup>9</sup>If it bears fruit next year, well and good; but if not, you can cut it down.'"

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**Next Sunday's Readings:** Joshua 5:9-12; Psalm 32; 2 Corinthians 5:16-21; Luke 15:1-3, 11b-32.

Cover: Fragment of a wall painting from the tomb of Egyptian noble Userhet, showing loaves, figs, a pomegranate, grapes, and a honeycomb (c. 1500 B.C.), Thebes, Egypt; photo © Werner Forman/Art Resource, NY. Used by permission.

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Tracks 1, 2, and 3  
ELCA-F