



THE FAITHFUL NEWS

CHURCH PHONE 812-282-6993
PASTOR'S PHONE 812-786-0083

*"Faithful Lutherans sent by Christ to serve
God's children"*

FEBRUARY, 2006

PASTOR'S LETTER

PASTOR JOYCE

Christmas seems to have been "just yesterday", and now we are looking at Lent! Around the time your next newsletter arrives, we will be entering the Lenten season with Ash Wednesday (March 1). Elsewhere in the newsletter (page 3) is a reprint from last year, reminding us of the reason for using ashes during the Ash Wednesday service. Here I would like to offer reflections that might help Lent be a deeper spiritual experience for all of us this year.

"Return to the Lord, your God..."

Do you recognize the opening words to the sentence for Lent used in the worship service through the Lenten season? These words from Joel 2:13 are words of sound faith advice.

It can be so easy to stray from weekly worship, regular Bible study, regular giving of our gifts, and regular fellowship with your faith family. Less obvious, and perhaps even more dangerous to us from a faith standpoint, is the illusion that we sometimes operate under that if we "do all the right things" (worship, study, giving, faith-filled living), we haven't really strayed. We may puzzle over how we can "return to the Lord our God" when it may seem to ourselves that we haven't wandered away from God...(at least not very far!)

I find it helpful when I do my own Lenten confessions, to think not only in terms of physical distance, although that may be a true indicator. What about how we distance ourselves from God and others by those subtle ways? Let's use this time before Lent to do our own "spiritual pulse check". Here are some starters...but only starters!

Are my attitudes, thoughts and actions pleasing to God?

Have I started or perpetuated a rumor, especially at the risk of someone else's pain?

Have I said about or done to another something that, in their situation, I would not want said about or done to me?

Have I been critical of another without knowing the reason for their actions, words or thoughts?

Have I been willing to go out of my way to welcome a stranger or to help someone in need?

Have I distanced myself from my faith community because things just aren't going the way I would like to see them happen?

Have I selfishly withheld my God-given gifts (time, talent and treasure) from God and found some way to justify that action?

How about those "deadly" sins...arrogance, prejudice, self-righteousness, an unforgiving spirit...?

Continued page 2

FINANCE MATTERS

PEG GERNAND

Your contributions record for 2005 is now available to pick up from church

Your contribution record for 2005 is now available to be picked up at church in the narthex. You may see that your commitment for 2006 is also noted on the statement. If you have questions regarding the format or the information contained on the statement, please let me know.

It is our intention to process these statements for members quarterly so that you may keep track of your contributions throughout the year.

It is helpful to those who are responsible for counting and recording contributions to use the envelopes provided whenever possible.

As a reminder, if you purchase items that you intend to donate to the church, we can no longer enter receipts into your records for credit. Please give your receipt to Edie. She will issue you a check and should you choose to donate the amount back to church, you may endorse it back over to us and put it in the offering plate. This keeps our records clearer for audit purposes. Your other option is to keep the receipt for your own tax purposes.

Based on the budget approved for 2006, we need \$3,434.42 each week in current (non-designated) donations. To date this

year we are meeting that goal. Thanks!

For more details on the state of Faith's finances as of the end of 2005, please consult your annual report.

(CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1)

I'm sure with not much effort, you might be able to add to this list. While we may not think of these kinds of actions

as straying from God, they do result in distance from God and from our faith brothers and sisters. As we approach Lent, now might be a good time to begin that self-examination. Then during the Lenten season we are able to hear more clearly God's reminder and invitation, "Return to the Lord your God, for he is gracious and merciful, slow to anger, and abounding in steadfast love."

Change of Address:
Miatta Tyler
8710 Airy Brink Lane
Apt. 301
Columbia, MD 21045

Youth Activities through February

- 5 "Soup"er Bowl collections and Super Bowl Party at the Taylors'

- 12 *Hot Dog Lunch followed by visit and worship service conducted for residents at Westminster Village

*Fund raising event

YOUTH NEWS

The new year for the youth group has started off great! January 8th the youth group had their first event of the year. We went to Cedar Lake Lodge and played Bingo with the residents there. It was fun and a great experience. Thanks to all who donated items for the prizes for the residents. January 29th was Youth Sunday. The Youth led the service and a spaghetti luncheon to raise funds for the Texas trip followed the service. Everyone did a great job in the service.

February is also full of events for the youth. The

5th is "Soup"er Bowl Sunday. This is a chance for the congregation to bring in \$1 and a can of soup to donate. Just bring in the items and the youth will collect them on your way into the church. After church, the Taylors are hosting the youth at their house for the annual Super Bowl Party. On February 12th, the youth is having a hot dog luncheon after church. This is a free-will donation and we're hoping to raise the rest of the money for the San Antonio convention in July.

The youth is truly thankful for everything the congre-

gation does for us. After the luncheon, there will be a youth meeting. After the meeting we're making gifts and taking them to Westminster Village. While we're there, we are helping with their worship for that Sunday and giving them our presents. This is also a wonderful experience.

KIRSTEN MCCOY



Caption describing picture or graphic.

2

worship

Donations help the youth attend the convention in San Antonio this summer

ASHES TO ASHES

It hardly seems possible, but Lent is just around the corner!

Ash Wednesday (March 1) will have the imposition of ashes available to those of you who may wish to have ashes applied to your foreheads following the confessional part of the service. Note, it is certainly optional, but will be available for those who may want to include this as a part of their Lenten discipline.

What is this thing called the imposition of ashes that we know to be a part of our Ro-

man Catholic brothers' and sisters' spirituality, but is now becoming more widely practiced in the rest of Christendom? I offer some excerpts from the LBW Manual on the Liturgy (p. 307-308) that address the spiritual meaning of the ashes:

"Ashes are an extraordinarily rich symbol rooted in ancient customs and practices. Ashes in a Jewish or Christian context suggest judgment and God's condemnation of sin; frailty, our total dependence upon God for life; humiliation and repentance. We are

reminded forcefully of the words of the committal in the burial service, 'earth to earth, ashes to ashes, dust to dust...'

"Moreover, ashes suggest cleansing and renewal. They were once used as a cleansing agent in the absence of soap, and on Ash Wednesday the ashes have sometimes been understood as a penitential substitute for water as a sign of Baptism. ... Water both stifles and refreshes, drowns and makes alive; so the ashes will tell of both death and renewal."

(REPRINTED ARTICLE)

And so, on this Ash Wednesday, we will have ashes available following the confession as a sign both of the believers' death to sin and rising to new life.



Caption describing picture or graphic.

My

PRAYER REQUESTS

We ask God's special healing for:

- Patti Smith**
- John Taylor**
- Carol Hustedt**
- Dot Clerici**
- Bob Davis**
- Louise Rice**
- Kay Winn**
- Lee Gregg**
- Beth Landis**
- Beth Haire**
- Gordon McCall**

- Eric Hall**
- Scott Wykoff**
- Dorothy Shillers** (Nancy Falkenstein's mother)
- Fran Heuton** (Terri Barr's mother)
- Shirley Buschman** (Beth Landis's mother)
- Irma Mischler** (Sharon Fox's mother)
- Ashley Bramble** (Falkensteins' granddaughter)
- Chuck Dolejs** (Debbie Lang's father)

All our service men and women who serve here and overseas.

The family of Cyndi Emily, who entered eternal life January 11. May Roger, Jennifer, Josh and Jordan, along with the rest of her family, know the peace of God's comforting touch.

For the members of the Call Committee as they begin the search for our new pastor.

For the Faith council that they may recognize the



impact of their leadership.

If you are in need of aid, comfort or prayer please contact Pastor Joyce at 812-786-0083 or one of the prayer chain leaders: Betty Condra (282-2102), Vivian Smith (288-8531) or Nancy Vogt (282-2014).

HAPPY BIRTHDAY & ANNIVERSARY

God's blessings to these February birthdays:

- Virginia Klemens 2/1
- Max Zimmerman 2/1
- Norma Boehme 2/2
- Barb Fitzpatrick 2/2
- Barb Brewster 2/5
- Adam Smith 2/5
- Mike Baugh 2/8
- Sue Neathamer 2/14
- Christa Hodge 2/16
- Teri Taylor 2/18
- Patti Cooke 2/19
- John Taylor 2/19
- Sandy Neathamer 2/20
- Will Czerwonka 2/21
- Sammi McCoy 2/21

- Art Anderegg 2/25
- Kathy Hayes 2/27
- Terry Cherry 2/28

We celebrate with these couples having February anniversaries:

- Cleon & Betty Trusner 2/2
- Lyle & Peg Gernand 2/7
- Eric & Lisa Peter 2/13
- Dick & Virginia Klemens 2/15
- David & Michelle Mitchell 2/27
- Ed and Fammie Peter 2/28

This list is now taken from the newly completed membership information which has been entered into the computer system. If information is missing or incorrect, please let Patti Smith know.

Congratulations to Al and Nancy Thompson on the birth of their granddaughter, Macie, born to Carrie and Doug Commingore January 7. We thank God for her safe delivery and for the gift of her birth.



The Faithful News is a monthly publication of Faith Lutheran Church, Jeffersonville, IN. Articles and information may be submitted to Patti Smith, secretary or Marsha Woods, editor

WELCA

WELCA Bible studies resumed in January and if you have not recently joined us for one of the study groups, we invite you to come. We continue the Bible study about bold women that is published in Lutheran Woman Today magazine. Do not worry if you do not have a subscription, there are always enough copies to share. If you are interested in a sub-

Schedule:

Sunshine Circle will meet **February 8** at 10 am at the church.

Wheadon Friendship Circle meets at 7 pm the third Tuesday of each month (**February 21**) at church.



scription, please feel free to ask Carrie McCoy how to go about subscribing. The next meeting times are shown to the left.

WELCA would like to thank everyone that helped prepare, clean up, and serve food for the Loaves and Fishes project on January 14. Thanks to Scott Wykoff and Linda Romine for organizing this effort. This is such a wonderful

ministry opportunity that helps feed the poor and homeless in our community. There will be other dates throughout the year so keep a look out for sign up sheets in the near future.

Thanks, too, to all those who provided food for the dinner for the Emily family following her funeral service.

CARRIE MCCOY



Caption describing picture or graphic.



Caption describing picture or graphic.

VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL

On January 10 Peg Gernand, Arlys Johnson, and Carol Taylor met to discuss plans for the format of Vacation Bible School that will be held July 24-28 from 9-12 am. We will order the exam kit from Augsburg/Fortress. This will let us use the music and art ideas. We will also follow the stories for each day in the ELCA material, but we will go back to having the stories presented by the individual teachers instead of the rotational pattern. Only art, music, recreation, and snack will be held outside of the classroom. The little ones will be almost totally self-contained except for music and recrea-

tion.

Music will try to teach very simple songs to the little ones. There is a hope that the older children will get to work with the bells and play some tunes for the Thursday night program for their parents.

The teacher and helper sign-up sheet will go up in the education wing hall. Anyone interested in teaching or helping is asked to sign up as soon as possible to enable us to work together as a team as we plan for the children this summer. Arlys plans to work on the schedule for all of the classes. VBS will start each day with an opening program of songs

CAROL TAYLOR

and a presentation of the story for the day. This theme will be continued in the classrooms with discussions and using the pupil's book that comes with the material.

Our hope is that by using just the very basic educational materials we will be able to stay within the budget for the coming year as well as giving the teachers more control of their pupils' learning program.

If you or a loved one were confirmed at Faith prior to 1984, please provide the confirmation date (year) to Pastor Joyce, Patti Smith, or Carol Taylor so that we may update our permanent records.

You may leave a message on the church voice mail at 282-6993.

LIBRARY NEWS

Now that the busy holidays are over, we can slow down and perhaps find the time to read a good book or listen to some music. A lot of new titles have been added recently, but I would like to tell you where many of our adult fiction books have come. They come from someone I haven't even met by the name of Coleen Bates. She is home-bound but travels the world through the books she loves to read. Once she heard of our Library, she found more joy by passing on her books to us at Faith. It's amazing to me how God works through ordinary people, in ways we wouldn't even imagine. Here is a listing of some of Coleen Bates' most

recent donations:

The Abram's Daughters Series by Beverly Lewis. This 5 book series by an award-winning author is about the lives of several Amish sisters growing up in Lancaster County, Pennsylvania.

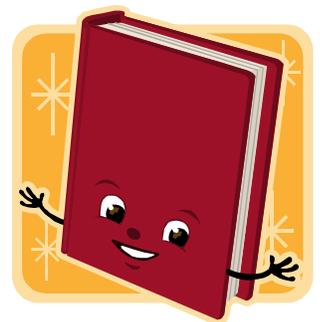
THE COVENENT
THE BETRAYAL
THE SACRIFICE
THE PRODIGAL
THE REVELATION.

THE SILENT STAR, by Tracie Peterson. This also takes place in Pennsylvania but during the hard times of World War II.

THE PERFECT MATCH, by Susan May Warren. It's a suspenseful mystery about two people who are trying to get to the source of unexplained

NANCY THOMPSON

fires occurring in a small town. One of them is a woman and captain of an all-male volunteer fire station. The other is one of the volunteer fire fighters who's one of the town's single pastors.



WEEKDAY CHURCH SCHOOL

Weekday Church School Registration for school year 2006/07 will be held on Wednesday, February 1 at 6:30 am by calling Carol Taylor at 228-1329. Children of Faith members and children baptized at Faith have the privilege of advance registration. All parents of these children should contact Carol BEFORE February 1 to insure a spot in next year's class of three year olds. There will be two classes of first year students next year. The younger threes will be taught by Peg Gernand and Penny Gernand. The older three and four year olds will be taught by Charlotte Davis and Edie Maas. If registration goes as it has in past years, all 24 spots will be filled by 10am and there will be names on the wait-

ing list. The closing picnic for this year's classes has been set for May 25th. Three school buses have been ordered from Miller transportation to take students and parents and teachers to the Conner Dairy farm in Shelby Co. Ky. for a day in the country. The Conners have been hosting the school for over twenty years. While on the farm the children get to see cows being milked, a calf fed its bottle and have a chance to help crank the ice cream churn to make home-made ice cream. We give a big thank-you to Linda and Vince Conner for their generous sharing of their farm with our children. February will find the children's classes visited by a policeman and a fireman

CAROL TAYLOR

when we study a unit on community helpers and the fact that God wants each and every one of us, large or small to be helpers for others. Later in the month we will be talking about the fact that God loves us no matter what. He loves us when we are happy, he loves us when we are sad, scared, homesick, or brave or afraid to try something new. The children will learn that all people get angry sometimes. They will learn that there are good ways and bad ways to show that anger. We will also practice situations where they should say, "I'm sorry" and "That's OK. I forgive you." Helping a child learn to express emotions in a positive way helps him to grow into a helpful, caring adult.



Registration for 2006/07 School Year is February 1. Faith members must register before that date to have a reserved spot

CHRISTIAN EDUCATION

Lyle Gernand's class held an "each one invite someone to Sunday school day" on Sunday, January 15. There were 14 people in this class, two of whom were new to the class. If this class continues to grow, there is talk of splitting it into two separate classes so that discussion will continue to flow easily among the class members. One of the underlying themes of the material is to develop an awareness of what it means to have an active evangelism spirit alive and working in the church. This is obviously working

because this class is growing. Along with the regular lesson for each Sunday Mr. Taylor's class will also be looking at the 23rd Psalm through the eyes of a shepherd. Pastor gave Mr. T. the shepherd book before surgery and he thinks it is so interesting that he wants to share it with the teens. The Christmas Heifer Project collected \$351.50 to use to buy animals in developing countries. The children thank all those who gave to this project that will

CAROL TAYLOR

help make someone's life a little better when they get their animal that will help make them more self-sufficient.



FEBRUARY 2006—FAITH LUTHERAN

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			1 5:45 3D 7:00 pm Choir & Catechism	2 9:15 am WCS	3	4
5 9:15 SCS 10:30 Worship Coffee time "Soup"er Bowl Youth Super Bowl Party at Taylors	6 10 am Quilters	7 9:15 am WCS <i>Newsletter Articles Due for March</i>	8 10 am WELCA 5:45 3D 7:00 pm Choir & Catechism	9 9:15 am WCS	10	11
12 9:15 SCS 10:30 Worship Hot Dog Lunch Youth to West- minster Village	13	14 9:15 am WCS	15 5:45 3D 7:00 pm Choir & Catechism	16 9:15 am WCS	17	18
19 9:15 am SCS 10:30 Worship Coffee Time Council meeting and workshop	20 10 am Quilters	21 9:15 am WCS 7 pm WELCA Wheadon Circle	22 5:45 3D 7:00 pm Choir & Catechism	23 9:15 am WCS	24	25
26 9:15 SCS 10:30 Worship Coffee Time	27	28 9:15 am WCS				

PRESIDENT'S LETTER

MARSHA WOODS

Thanks to all who participated in the annual meeting on January 15. You will find the minutes included in this newsletter. You will not find minutes from a January council meeting...we didn't conduct one.

One of the next areas of focus will be the constitution and bylaws that govern our congregation. The bylaws were revised in 1994, but after an exhaustive search, we can't locate a copy. Apparently they weren't filed with Synod, since they have no copy either. Some of the changes I recall that were made in 1994 include:

- ◆ Changed council terms from 3 years to 2 years
- ◆ Changed the way officers were determined from council choosing them to a validation by the congregation of a slate of officers presented by council
- ◆ Limit of 2 consecutive terms on council
- ◆ Changed the number of members needed for a quorum to 20%
- ◆ Determined the annual meeting to be held the 3rd Sunday of January

If anyone remembers other changes or details of those

1994 bylaws, please let me know. Council will form a committee to review and recommend a constitution and bylaws to be presented and ratified by the congregation at a meeting to be held sometime in 2006. Stay tuned.

Congratulations to these new council members: Tom Hayes, Bill Holman, Scott Rife and Tami Czerwonka. They join Peg Germand, Kelly Cooke, Craig Warren, Scott Wykoff and myself as your council members. Thanks to all who agreed to serve on council but were not elected this time around. I'm sure we can use your talents elsewhere and your turn on council will come!

There is a profound sense of accomplishment here based the activities of the past year. Rightfully so. I would remind you, however, that our work does not end. It is ongoing. Those who serve on council can expect longer meetings and a larger commitment of time and energy to keep the momentum going. That goes with the job that was accepted.

We will conduct a workshop for council members on February 19 following worship. It will last into early evening. This is part

of the leadership training that was determined by the congregation to be important.

Volunteering is a hallmark of our Faith family. We are blessed to have so many willing to serve. If you are unsure about where or for what to volunteer, please let me know. We need volunteers for the Lenten dinners, Nursery during Sunday worship, greeters, social hosts, altar guild, visiting homebound members, and much more.

The IK Synod is sponsoring a "Preaching for Mission" workshop at Christ Lutheran Church in Louisville February 3 and 4. See the side bar for details. If one of your gifts is the ability to communicate, you might want to consider this workshop as a way to further explore that gift. Please contact Pastor Joyce at 786-0083 for more details.

Finally, my thanks to all of you for your continued support.

Preaching for Mission Project

*Sponsored by the Indiana-Kentucky Synod,
ELCA With Grant Support from the Lutheran
Foundation, Fort Wayne, IN*

February 3-4, 2006

Christ Lutheran Church—Louisville, KY

The Preaching for Mission Project is based on three concepts:

- 1. *The project will encourage and model conversations of preachers and hearers together around texts and around sermons.***
- 2. *The project will equip preacher and hearer to be more skilled in their tasks.***
- 3. *The project will empower congregations to be mission centers by lifting up the Gospel-Christ crucified and risen for the sake of the world.***



FEBRUARY 2006
NEWSLETTER

2014 Allison Lane
 Jeffersonville, IN 47130
 Rev. Joyce Gerwing, Pastor
 Church Office 812-282-6993

FAITH LUTHERAN CHURCH
 EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN
 CHURCH IN AMERICA

NON-PROFIT ORGANIZATION
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 JEFFERSONVILLE, IN 47130

SERVING AT FAITH FOR THE MONTH OF FEBRUARY

USHERS: KELLY COOKE, LYLE AND PEG GERNAND, DENNIS JOHNSON
ALTAR GUILD: BEV HAIRE AND BILLIE WILLIAMS
FINANCIAL ASSISTANT: COUNCIL MEMBER

WEEKLY ASSISTANTS:

<u>SUN.</u>	<u>ASSISTANT</u>	<u>ACOLYTE</u>	<u>CRUCIFER</u>	<u>NURSERY</u>	<u>SOCIAL</u>	<u>GREETERS</u>
5	Lyle Gernand	Matt Craven	Josh Landis	?	Baugh	Baugh
12	Bev Haire	S. McCoy	K. McCoy	?	?	Campbell/ Zimmerman
19	Virginia Klemens	K. Peter	S. Rife	?	?	Cress
26	Scott Wykoff	Katie Rife	J. Wykoff-Romine	?	?	D & V Smith