



# THE FAITHFUL NEWS

CHURCH PHONE 812-282-6993

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

MARCH, 2006



## PJ'S JOTS

PASTOR HAWKINS

Hello! Well traditionally the first thing I do when I join a new congregation for ministry is to spend a little time introducing myself and family to the membership. My family and I enjoyed the opportunity to meet as many members of the Faith Family as we did on February 19, 2006. It was a real pleasure to join with you to say farewell to Pastor Joyce and to be introduced to the worshipping community. I know we all bid God's peace to Pastor Joyce as she embarks on a new interim ministry where her talents are needed.

To begin with PJ stands for Pastor John, that is what I have been know by for the majority of my ministry. So that is how I introduce myself. I have been ordained as a clergy of our church for soon to be 29 years. I have been married to my wife Cathy for 33 years. We are native Hoosiers and high school sweethearts. Our home town is Vincennes, IN. We have been blessed with one daughter, Jessica, who is all grown up and living on her own in Indianapolis, IN. My ministry travels have taken me many places: seminary in Columbia, S.C.; internship in Charleston, S.C.; calls to Mulberry, IN; Richmond, IN; Greendale, IN; Indianapolis, IN; and a six year period of travel with the U.S. Navy as a chaplain. All of these have been exciting, rewarding, and challenging ministries for our Lord.

My role here at Faith Lutheran is that as an interim minister. Specifically to provide pastoral ministry for you as you discern the calling of your next pastor. I find it interesting that we will begin our time together on Ash Wednesday. We are at the beginning of a period of repentance and reflection as we travel the journey of Lent hearing about the plan that God had/has for us for our salvation in Jesus Christ. All during this Season of Lent you will be reflecting and discerning the call of your pastor. I will lead you through the Lenten pilgrimage and the Bishop and his staff will lead you through the call process. I believe this to be a very good thing to have the Season of Lent to compliment your journey through the call process. So, I am not going to dwell on the call process, however, I will spend some time talking about Lent.

Several years ago a pastor in our synod wrote the following, you may have read it before but I think it is worth repeating:

### **The Lenten Discipline** by Pastor Thomas Weitzel

On Ash Wednesday, as Lent begins, we are invited "to struggle against everything that leads us away from love of God and neighbor" by exercising the Discipline of Lent: repentance, fasting, prayer and works of love. These become the specific occasions and opportunities for spiritual renewal during this season of renewal.

Living out a discipline takes our lord's words about self-denial seriously (Matt. 16:24). Through discipline, we find freedom and grace, just as parental discipline is loving and brings a child to freedom and righteousness (Heb. 12:2-13).

In the Lenten Discipline, we focus our lives on Christ's self-sacrificing passion, death

## LENT ACTIVITIES

March

- 1- Lent Begins  
7 pm Ash Wednesday Service
- 8- 6 pm Lenten Dinner  
6:30 Preschool Bible Stdy  
7 pm Worship  
7:30 pm Choir, Catechism, and Lent study sessions
- 15- 6 pm Lenten Dinner  
6:30 Preschool Bible Stdy  
7 pm Worship  
7:30 pm Choir, Catechism, and Lent study sessions
- 22- 6 pm Lenten Dinner  
6:30 Preschool Bible Stdy  
7 pm Worship  
7:30 pm Choir, Catechism, and Lent study sessions
- 29- 6 pm Lenten Dinner  
6:30 Preschool Bible Stdy  
7 pm Worship  
7:30 pm Choir, Catechism, and Lent study sessions

### FINANCE MATTERS



Our stewardship response begins when we realize and accept God's unconditional love for us. We reflect God's love and demonstrate our thankfulness for God's gifts when we respond generously to the needs of others--giving freely of what has been freely given to us. Romans 12:6-8 tells us to use what has been given to us for God's glory.

Stewardship is being in charge of something that belongs to someone else. When we are in charge of something that someone else owns, it implies accountability. Jesus taught in many parables that we are re-

sponsible to God for our use of what we have been given. He also taught that we owe the owner (i.e. God) a return on what has been assigned to us - ourselves, our material resources, or our talents.

Here's a look at how our Faith Family has taken care of the things we have been so graciously given during the month of January:

CLM	\$ 115.00
Cyndi Emily Mem.	695.00
Flowers	60.00
Heifer Fund	351.25
Pastor's Discr. Fund	260.00

### PEG GERNAND

The Lutheran 8.00  
Non-designated \$16,771.85

According to our budget, we need \$3,434.42 each week of non-budgeted giving to meet our projected expenses - we averaged \$3,354.37 per week. We only fell short by \$80.05 - considering there were 5 Sundays in January. The response to our Stewardship Program last fall was wonderful and it seems as if everyone is following the example Jesus gave to us. Let's keep up the good work!

### PJ'S JOTS (CONTINUED)

and resurrection which has brought acceptance, forgiveness and redemption by God. Through that same discipline, we make a loving response to God.

Pastor Weitzel reminds us of

what our Lenten Pilgrimage represents for our lives. You are invited to begin on Ash Wednesday and then continue each week during our Mid-Week Lenten worship to share in this time of reflection and repentance. I look forward to the opportunity

### PASTOR HAWKINS

to share it with you.

Shalom  
PJ

### CALL COMMITTEE UPDATE

The Call Committee has submitted the church profile to the Synod and is waiting for the name of the first candidate. We hope to have a candidate to interview within about a month. The members of the call committee will interview the candidate as well as observe him or her in the church he or she is presently serving. If the committee recommends the candidate to the council

(must have 2/3 of the committee in agreement), the council will interview the candidate and discuss the compensation package requested and available. If the council agrees to accept the candidate, then the congregation will be given an opportunity to meet the candidate. A congregational meeting will be called to vote on the acceptance or rejection of the candidate.

### DICK KLEMENS

Tom Hayes has asked to take the position of an alternate on the Call Committee because of his work schedule. He will be replaced by Veronica Rife, first alternate.

Keep us in your prayers as we begin our search for a new pastor. We will continue to keep the congregation informed of our progress.

Pastor Joyce's new address:  
St. James Lutheran Church  
1741 S. State Street  
Greenfield, IN 47140

## YOUTH NEWS

**Old News:** Thanks to the congregation for your help with both the spaghetti and hot dog luncheons!! They were both a huge success and we couldn't have done it without you! We raised approximately \$405 on the spaghetti dinner and \$263 on the hot dog/hamburger lunch. We're almost ready to go to Texas! The younger youth made cookies for the residents and went to Westminster Village, helping with their worship service on February 12. Meanwhile, the older youth who are going to Texas attended a mixer at St. John's Lutheran in Louisville with other Ken-

tuckiana youth who are going to Texas. As of now, including these last two dinners, we have a balance of \$7889.16 in the bank. Our best estimate of costs to attend the convention are \$1041 per youth (we have 10 youths going).

Registration	\$235
(each family paid \$100 of this)	
Airfare	\$306
Food	\$150
Room	\$450

We still need \$2521.

**New news:** On Sunday, February 26, the youth met after church to discuss the

KIRSTEN MCCOY

program and activities for the rest of this school year. As a service project, the youth are preparing the Lenten dinner for March 15 (corned beef and cabbage).

The older, Texas-bound youth will once again join others going to the convention at Ascension Lutheran on March 12. These will be one of these meetings each month until the trip at different participating churches in the area to give these youngsters and opportunity to get to know one another and gain even more from the trip. Faith will host the June event.

Youth activities through March were not available at press time. Please watch the bulletin for announcements.

Caption describing picture or graphic.



## Thrivent Financial for Lutherans®

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Please allow me to introduce myself. My name is Robert Ranzau. I am a Thrivent

Financial Associate serving Faith Lutheran. I and my wife Karyn, along with our children, Jacob and Allison, live in Louisville and attend Our Savior Lutheran.

Thrivent Financial for Lutherans is a Fortune 500 membership organization committed

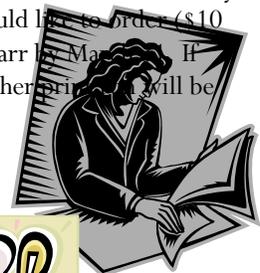
to helping members achieve their financial goals and give back to their congregations and communities.

I am excited to be working with Faith Lutheran and look forward to getting acquainted with many of you personally. I'm also looking forward to sharing information about the fraternal benefits that Thrivent Financial offers. If you have any questions about Thrivent Financial for Lutherans please feel free to contact me.

## WELCA Cookbooks

A BIG thank you to Linda Romine for her work with the WELCA cookbooks and to Terri Barr for her help in taking orders.

150 cookbooks were ordered and sold immediately. If you didn't get one and would like to order (\$10 each), please contact Terri Barr by March 15. If there's enough interest, another printing will be ordered.



Caption describing picture or graphic.

## PRAYER REQUESTS

We ask God's special healing for:

**Patti Smith**

**John Taylor**

**Carol Hustedt**

**Dot Clerici**

**Kay Winn**

**Lee Gregg**

**Gordon McCall**

**Eric Hall**, back in Bethesda, MD for further treatment

**Dorothy Shillers** (Nancy Falkenstein's mother)

**Fran Heuton** (Terri Barr's mother)

**Shirley Buschman** (Beth Landis's mother)

**Irma Mishler** (Sharon Fox's mother)

**Ashley Bramble** (Falkensteins' granddaughter)

**Chuck Dolejs** (Debbie Lang's father)

**Walter Clive**

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

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 Hawkins at 812-282-6993 or one of the prayer chain leaders: Betty Condra (282-2102), Vivian Smith (288-8531) or Nancy Vogt (282-2014).



Thanks to my Faith family for cards and phone calls during my brother's illness and death. Everyone has been comforting.

*Edwinna Andereg*

## HAPPY BIRTHDAY & ANNIVERSARY

*God's blessings to these March birthdays:*

- Bill Holman 3/1
- Michelle Mitchell 3/3
- Veronica Rife 3/10
- Kristine Young 3/10
- Megan Holman 3/11
- Sara Cooke 3/13
- Al Thompson 3/14
- Mike Smith 3/16
- Josie Durham 3/19
- Mary Ellen Zimmerman 3/20
- Lindsey Barr 3/22
- Anne Steaban 3/26
- Brittany Searcy 3/28
- Greg Maas

*We celebrate with these couples having March anniversaries:*

- Linda and Mike Woehrle 3/3
- Mary Ellen and Max Zimmerman 3/16
- Nancy and Al Thompson 3/26

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.

I would like to express my gratitude to my Faith family. Thank you for the prayers prior to my surgery and the prayers for my continued recovery. Thanks to all who sent a card, dropped off a meal, visited me in the hospital, sent gifts and called to check on me.

In times of trials we lean on one another and I feel truly blessed to have such a wonderful "extended family" at Faith on which to lean.

Thank you from the bottom of my heart!

Yours in Faith,  
Patti Smith



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 continue. If you have not 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 subscription, please feel free to ask Carrie McCoy how to go about subscribing. The next

**Joint Quarterly Meeting** at 10 am on **Saturday, March 4** at church.

**Sunshine Circle** will meet **Wednesday, March 8** at 10 am at the church.

**Wheadon Friendship Circle** meets at 7 pm **Tuesday, March 21** at church.

## Women of the ELCA

meeting times listed to the left.

At the joint quarterly meeting on March 4<sup>th</sup> we will have a brief business meeting. Among the items for discussion are how the proceeds from the Lenten dinners will be used. After the business meeting, we will package the college and military care packages. Mark this date and join the women of the con-

gregation in this important ministry work.

Thank you to everyone that donated items for the college students and military men and women. Those packages will soon be sent out to the recipients and we are sure they will appreciate your thoughtfulness and generosity.

Thanks to everyone that has signed up to prepare a Lenten

CARRIE MCCOY



Caption describing picture or graphic.

**TO: All Women of the ELCA**

**RE: WELCA SPRING CLUSTER**

**MARK YOUR CALENDARS and SAVE THE DATE!**

- WHAT:** The Women of the ELCA Spring Cluster
- WHERE:** Messiah Trinity Church, 8701 Shepherdsville Rd., Louisville
- WHO:** All women in ELCA congregations in Kentucky and Southern Indiana
- WHEN:** **Saturday morning, March 25, 2006**

*Agenda and more details will soon follow, but please mark your calendars now, and plan to join us for up! Bible study and a delicious lunch! Childcare will be provided*

- Questions? Pat Case, Messiah Trinity, Louisville: (502) 969-1422
- Bonnie Kroenig, Christ Lutheran, Louisville: (502) 245-1020
- Linda Romine, Faith Lutheran, Jeffersonville: (812) 948-1727



Caption describing picture or graphic.

## NOTES TO NOTE

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.

● The **Center for Lay Ministries** is very appreciative of the community support throughout the years. There are currently some board positions available. If you would like to assist with this worthy cause for our community, please contact Sue Neathamer.

● Thanks to all who supported the Sunday Church School **Heifer International** Christmas project. With the \$351.25 collected through the special offering, the children are going to purchase a water buffalo, share of a llama, flock of chicks and

tree seedlings.

Children can make a difference in the world. Thank you for supporting them in that effort and experience—Virginia and Dick Klemens, Sunday Church School teachers.

● The **Faithful Quilters** have been in stitches since 1989. That year the ladies completed 11 quilts. They've been busier and busier each year and have completed a total of 2100 since they began this ministry. Think of the number of people who have found comfort thanks to the

efforts of these ladies. This is an awesome accomplishment ... congratulations and thanks to all the Faithful Quilters!

● We are still looking for volunteers to give rides to Keith Fancher and Annetta May each week. A sign up sheet is posted in the narthex on the bulletin board.

## LIBRARY NEWS

It appears to me that Faith has had more than our share of grief lately with the passing of so many of our dear friends and family. Our hearts and minds tell us that they are going to a much better place, but that still doesn't diminish our loss of no longer having them beside us.

I didn't know Cyndi Emily very well; I wish I had. But I do feel as if I've come to know her through her unexpected gifts and through the eyes of those who knew her well. As teacher and school principal, she worked long and hard for her convictions, and her students, teachers, and family knew and loved her for it. What better accolade could an educator have than for a 10 year old student

to tearfully say to his father on the day of her funeral, that she was "a great lady". I know of no greater compliment.

I must say that even though I didn't know her as others did, she has touched me in ways I couldn't have imagined. When I was trying to get our library organized a couple years ago, I looked far and wide for a single card catalog drawer. After exhausting all possible sources, I settled on buying a single cardboard file box. More than a year later, what did I find but an entire card catalog unit sitting in the middle of the Library. From her hospital bed, Cyndi made certain that it come to Faith. She reminded me that God answers prayers in His time, not ours. Would I have been

NANCY THOMPSON

reminded of His presence if it had happened any other way?

Quite often adversity, despite all of its heartache, brings people together. Cyndi did that. In trying to help ease the family's burden, we joined together, and became stronger as a church family.

Then with Cyndi's passing, Roger, Josh, Jordan and Emily chose Faith's Library as a means for people to honor Cyndi's memory. What an awesome gift to all of us at Faith. Her faith, love and generosity will continue to guide us for a long time to come. And she will continue to be an inspiration to me.



WEEKDAY CHURCH SCHOOL

Weekday Church School will follow the Greater Clark School System's calendar and be closed March 28 and March 30 for spring break.

The Pre-K class will continue their unit "Happy or Sad, God Loves Me." This is a study of the various emotions presented to the children in story form. They talk about being happy, sad, angry, scared and jealous. During discussions and roll play, appropriate responses to these emotions are discussed. Don't hit someone if you are angry, say "I'm sorry" if you hurt someone. Ask for help if you are afraid, and love is not like a plate of M&Ms.

M&Ms run out. The bowl gets empty, but love never runs out. You can have a new baby brother in your family, and Mom still loves you just as much as before. She has new love for the new baby. Love never runs out. God is like that, too. His love never runs out. He will always love us when we are good or when we are bad. But when we are bad, it makes Him very sad. This is our Lenten message for these little people, but it is a wonderful message for each of us. God's love never runs out!

This group will look at God's world to try to find signs that spring is

CAROL TAYLOR

coming. Rain and wind will be discussed as part of God's plan for seasonal changes. Both age groups will be outside looking for new growth on the pussywillow bush JoAn Luther planted for us before she moved to Indianapolis. That was a neat gift to leave for the children.

The first year class will be studying "God Loves Me and My Family." They will read the story of Ruth and talk about the fact that God plans for them to live in families so that they can help each other. These children are learning to name the basic shapes.



**Note of Change:**

The preschoolers will now have two opportunities for Sunday School. During the regular Sunday School time, after the opening, Peg Gernand will take the little ones into her class for a special study time together. They can also attend the class which starts right after the Children's Sermon, taught by Michelle Mitchell and Kathy Farmer.

CHRISTIAN EDUCATION

CAROL TAYLOR

The Christian Education Committee met February 15. Several items were discussed. We need to order more material for the spring term. Dick and Virginia Klemens submitted their resignations as Sunday Church School teachers effective the end of this school year. We give them a big THANK YOU! They will be hard to replace, but replace them we will! Beware, Mrs. "T" is looking for teachers!

ing opportunities for all ages. These study sessions will be offered immediately following the Wednesday Lenten worship service (about 7:30-8:30 pm). In addition to choir and confirmation class, there are new options on the plate so please consider one of them and join us. Thanks to all the volunteers, and Pastor Hawkins, who have stepped up to lead these. A complete listing is to the right of this article.

Lent is a time of study and reflection and we are offer-

**Wednesday Lent Activity Schedule**

- 6:00 Lenten dinner
- 6:30 Pre-school Bible Story and Craft taught by Sarah Rife And Kirsten McCoy
- 7:00 Worship Service
- 7:30 Interest Groups:
  - ◆ Adult Bible Study led by Pastor Hawkins
  - ◆ Computer class taught by Rick Barr
  - ◆ Confirmed youth Bible Study/Homework Club/ Game Time led by John Taylor
  - ◆ Elementary youth Bible Study/Homework Club/ Game Time led by Roger Emily
  - ◆ Choir and Catechism

# MARCH 2006—FAITH LUTHERAN

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			1 7:00 pm Ash Wed. Service 7:30 Choir & Catechism	2 9:15 am WCS	3	4 10 am WELCA Joint Meeting
5 9:15 SCS 10:30 Worship Coffee time	6 10 am Quilters	7 9:15 am WCS	8 10 am WELCA 6 pm Lenten Dinner 7:00 pm Service 7:30 pm Choir & Catechism	9 9:15 am WCS	10	11
12 9:15 SCS 10:30 Worship Coffee Time Council Meets	13	14 9:15 am WCS <i>Newsletter Articles due for April</i>	15 6 pm Lenten Dinner 7:00 pm Service 7:30 Choir & Catechism	16 9:15 am WCS	17	18
19 9:15 am SCS 10:30 Worship Coffee Time	20 10 am Quilters	21 9:15 am WCS 7 pm WELCA Wheadon Circle	22 6 pm Lenten Dinner 7:00 pm Service 7:30 Choir & Catechism	23 9:15 am WCS	24	25 WELCA Spring Cluster Messiah Trinity
26 9:15 SCS 10:30 Worship Coffee Time	27	28 NO WCS	29 6 pm Lenten Dinner 7:00 pm Service 7:30 Choir & Catechism	30 NO WCS	31	

## PRESIDENT'S LETTER

MARSHA WOODS

February was another busy month. I'm beginning to appreciate that there is no other kind! The ink was barely dry on the February newsletter and it hadn't even made it to the post office when Pastor Joyce announced her intention to move on (thus the insert last month). She and Synod felt her primary tasks with us were complete and we understood her decision to join a parish closer to her children.

Thanks to all who joined in the pitch-in farewell lunch for her on February 19 and thanks, too, to those who set up and cleaned up.

You will read at the beginning of this newsletter the first of Pastor John Hawkins' monthly messages to us. We are delighted to have him providing us with pastoral care beginning March 1 and continuing through the call process. We have signed a six month contract with him that is renewable at the end of the term if our called pastor is not yet in place.

The season of Lent is always a busy one as well. In addition to Sunday Church School and worship, our Wednesday evening worship services at 7 begin Ash Wednesday (March 1). Beginning the following

week (March 8) we will have Lenten Suppers at 6 each Wednesday with a free will offering. These dinners are always a special time of fellowship. Thanks to WELCA for sponsoring them again this year and thanks to the people who prepare the suppers. Please be considerate and sign up weekly so that those preparing the meal know how many to count on. It's a bit frustrating to see 16 people on the list and 36 people at the door! You'll notice that the preschoolers will duck out of dinner about 6:30 to enjoy a Bible story and craft project before worship. Thanks to Sarah Rife and Kirsten McCoy for leading this class.

The Wednesday worship services at 7 will focus on "Voices at the Crossroads", a series of first person dramas based on gospel verses. Each week will feature a person who witnessed Christ's last hours. I think you'll find this an interesting theme.

Then, at 7:30 after worship, we will scatter to choir, catechism and a variety of special interest classes, including an adult Bible study led by Pastor Hawkins, a computer class back by popular demand taught by Rick Barr, a Bible

study/homework club/game time for confirmed youth overseen by John Taylor, and another Bible study/homework club/game time for elementary age youth under the tutelage of Roger Emily. The Christian Education committee worked hard to come up with something for the entire family. Thanks to those committee members!

I know you've heard time and again how much we've done and how far we've come. It happens to be true. There has been a lot of work done by many dedicated individuals who want to see Faith continue its ministries and move forward into the future. The work continues. Pastor Hawkins is not with us to execute any major changes, but to help us keep our momentum during the call process. The ministry of Faith continues to be our responsibility.

How do you observe the season of Lent? What are your resolutions for Lent? Do you plan to deprive yourself of something you enjoy? Do you plan a special prayer vigil or study regimen? Do you plan to dedicate yourself to a new task that brings you closer to God?

We're all familiar with Advent calendars, and how they can walk us through daily activities as we prepare for the birth of our Lord. What if we had a Lenten calendar and dedicated ourselves to acts of kindness each day? A special prayer, a kind deed, a phone call... something that shows generosity in some small measure toward others in gratitude for the generosity that we have been shown through grace?

Think about it.



MARCH 2006

# NEWSLETTER

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

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 EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN  
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## SERVING AT FAITH FOR THE MONTH OF MARCH

**USHERS: RICK AND TERRI BARR, MIKE WOHRLE, GORDON MCCALL**  
**ALTAR GUILD: LINDA WOHRLE AND MARSHA WOODS**  
**FINANCIAL ASSISTANT: TOM HAYES**

## WEEKLY ASSISTANTS:

<u>SUN.</u>	<u>ASSISTANT</u>	<u>ACOLYTE</u>	<u>CRUCIFER</u>	<u>NURSERY</u>	<u>SOCIAL</u>	<u>GREETERS</u>
5	Marsha Woods	Matt Craven	Josh Landis	Kris Searcy	?	Fox
12	Veronica Rife	S. McCoy	K. McCoy	Scott Rife	?	Steward & Nix
19	Virginia Klemens	W. Czerwonka	K. Czerwonka	Tami Czerwonka	?	Klemens
26	Scott Wykoff	Katie Rife	J. Wykoff-Romine	Nancy Arbuckle	?	Riekhof