



THE FAITHFUL NEWS

CHURCH PHONE 812-282-6993
PASTOR'S CELL 317-626-1694

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

AUGUST, 2006



PJ'S JOTS

PASTOR JOHN HAWKINS

Can you believe it? The months of June and July have already gone away! Summer is just about over! I was told not too long ago that school here in Jeffersonville will be starting in early August. It is hard for me to believe that I have been here for five months. They have been very enjoyable months for me as I have learned to know the congregation and to be able to provide ministry with you. But the process continues on. I want to share with you a newsletter article I just got from an organization call Alban Institute.

From the *Alban Weekly* - Week of 7/10/2006

CHOOSING YOUR NEXT CLERGY LEADER

Dan Hotchkiss, Alban Senior Consultant

The most frequent mistake clergy search committees make is to focus too much on the perceived weaknesses of the previous clergyperson. If the predecessor was personable but poorly educated, the search committee scours the world for a Ph.D. and takes social skills for granted—after all, doesn't every minister have them? If the last minister was an active organizational leader but an indifferent preacher, the next will spend most of the work week writing sermons and assume the laity will run the church. The trouble with this approach is that congregations are organized around the strengths of previous clergy more than their weaknesses.

A congregation seeking a new clergy leader is like a person in good health with an itch—oblivious to the health, preoccupied with the itch. Usually a person in that situation is more strongly motivated to scratch the itch than to investigate and build on the sources of the health, even though that would likely lead to greater comfort in the long run. Likewise, when a search committee's top priority is to obtain a candidate who is strong where his or her predecessor was perceived to be weak, it may set that person up to fail in an area of great importance to the congregation.

The second most frequent mistake search committees make is to focus too much on the *strengths* of the departing clergyperson. They say, "We want someone just like Dr. Smith, only younger." This mistake may be even more hazardous for the next ministry, because the role of "younger Dr. Smith" is hard to sustain for long.

In both of these scenarios, the search process is too reactive: it is driven by the congregation's reactions (positive or negative) to past ministers rather than to signs, evidence, and spiritual leadings about leadership the congregation will need in the future. Reactivity is apt to be highest when the prior ministry ended painfully. After a long ministry, a congregation may form camps: one anxious to hold on to what they valued in the former minister, the other eager finally to move forward in directions the departing leader did not allow.

Some reactivity is almost always present, especially at the beginning of a clergy transition. The single most important thing congregations can do in this situation is to engage an effective interim minister for a fixed term. A fixed term enables the leaders to create a plan for the transition and then carry the plan through. Generally this requires at least a year. When the congregation is

Summer Worship Time

Summer hours continue
through August

Adult and High School Sunday
School study Revelations at
8:45 am

(Activities are planned for
young people during this time)

Worship is at 10:00 am



FINANCE MATTERS

Vacation Bible School at Faith is just around the corner. Early memories for me of VBS include both the story and song about Zacchaeus – “a wee little man was he.” Bible students remember that Zacchaeus had gotten wealthy at the expense of others. And even more, we remember that Zacchaeus was a short man and had to climb a tree to get a glimpse of Jesus. But later, after Jesus spent time with him, Zacchaeus stood tall. This is not to suggest that he grew physically, but we admire and rejoice in his change of attitude, his spiritual growth and commitment. He said, “Look, Lord! Here and now I give half of my possessions to the poor, and if I have cheated anybody out of anything, I will

pay back four times the amount” (Luke 19:8).

Whatever our physical disadvantages may be, we can stand tall in our willingness and commitment to give. What was Jesus’ response to Zacchaeus? “Today salvation has come to this house.” (Luke 19:9).

Our family of Faith has done a wonderful job through the first half of this year in standing “tall” for the Lord. Our total income through June amounted to \$91,206.17. Out of that total, there was proximately \$6,963.92 in designated giving. That leaves \$84,242.25 used for the general operation of the church. According to our budget, we need \$89,310 to meet budgeted expenses through June. All commit-

PEG GERNAND

tees have been very conscious about expenditures and have held any expenses to a minimum. The good news is that our Treasurer, Edie Maas, says we are paying our bills. The bad news is we will need to do some catching up to be able to continue to pay the operating expenses. Thank you for all of your past efforts and we know that God will continue to bless our Faith family and help us to carry out the mission He has laid before us.

Please watch in the coming months for information concerning our Stewardship Program for this fall – Consecration Sunday will be October 29 with a dinner after services. More information will be shared in future newsletters.

The Call Committee interviewed the second candidate recently. The individual decided to withdraw from consideration.

The committee is awaiting another name from Synod.

Thank you for keeping us in your prayers.

PJ'S JOTS

divided, two years may make it possible to do substantial interim work before the search committee is selected so that the selection will not reflect divisions over the past clergyperson.

The best interim ministers are those who feel a special calling to this work and have prepared for it through training, reading, and experience.

They project a sense of urgency to take full advantage of the opportunities the interim year offers, and calm confi-

dence that even a painful transition can be positive. No simple rules ("Never change the liturgy!" "Always shake things up!" "Keep the previous pastor at a distance!") can capture the complexity of a moment of transition; interims need to be able to size up the unique features of a given state of affairs and tailor their approach to the congregation's needs.

Over the course of an interim year or two, members of the congregation name and work

CONTINUED FROM PAGE ONE

through their reactive feelings about the prior pastor, or occasionally about one who left long ago. Not everyone moves through the transition at the same pace: the search committee leads until they are clear about the kind of clergy leader who will serve the congregation not by healing wounds or assuaging grief over the past but by helping the congregation to fulfill its calling in the future.

Source: *Alban Weekly* © 2006 The Alban Institute, Inc.

YOUTH NEWS

In July, thanks to the church's support, eight of the youth went to Texas for the tri-annual LYO youth gathering, this year hosted in San Antonio. Some of the responses from those who attended are included here; the rest will be included next month. Jordan Emily was one of the 5 males that traveled to San Antonio. Here is a little of what he thought: "I personally enjoyed listening to the sensational speakers and good music. It was also interesting to learn about poverty, slavery, and other horrors that still afflict our world today. The city of San Antonio is interesting and beautiful. At the end of the day, I also

enjoyed relaxing and playing euchre with the youth group." Josh Landis is another one of the youth that attended, and had this to say of the trip: "I found it interesting to learn about the city and riverwalk of San Antonio when we took a boatripe/tour down the San Antonio River. It was also really cool to simply walk around the city and meet new people. I enjoyed the performance of The Newsboys at one of the meetings. Playing cards with each other in the hotel was also a plus!" Sarah Rife was one of the three female youth on the trip and had great things to say about the trip: "The journey to Texas was a great learning

KIRSTEN MCCOY
 experience. Not only did I get closer to God, but I feel as though I had gotten closer to myself. I learned not only about God, but also of the terror in the world. I was also introduced to some contemporary church music. This trip helped me realize that there are a lot more Lutherans than I had fathomed, and those were just a few of the youth!" I also had fun on this trip, and have a little something to say: The trip to San Antonio really opened my eyes. The inspirational speakers were truly awesome. The music lifted my spirit. The people I was surrounded by made me smile, and I had a blast! It's an experience I'll

Youth Swim Party at Taylors

August 13

Fun times and election of officers

never forget. Overall, I believe that everybody enjoyed their trip to San Antonio."

Our great thanks to Veronica Rife and Chuck Landis for going along as chaperones, and to all of our Faith family who supported us along the way. We were able to raise enough money for the trip without using any of the Emma Schoen funds!

OWLS

Our OWLS (Older Wiser Lutherans) recently enjoyed a picnic at the home of Jim and Nancy Vogt. Everyone had a good time and, as always, enjoyed good food with the great company! On Sunday, September 10, we are planning to attend the Clarksville Little Theatre production of "Oklahoma", at 2:00 p.m. We will either enjoy lunch together before the performance or dinner after the show. Check at church or call!

October seems a long way

off now, but time flies when you're having fun! We have tentatively planned an October fall/Halloween party at the home of Art and Edwina Anderegg. Costumes? Hot dogs? Marshmallows? Check the October newsletter for more details.

OWLS continue to be concerned about our seniors and our homebound members. We have started a visitation program, which we are refining as we go. Our plans are to visit or otherwise contact those

members of our church who cannot attend, to bring greetings and support from our Faith family. We need your help!

Call Nancy Falkenstein (944-9408) or Arlys Johnson (944-2219) for more information.

NANCY FALKENSTEIN



PRAYER CONCERNS

We ask God's special healing for:

- Dot Clerici**
- Hallie Kusch**
- Kay Winn**
- Fammie Peter**
- Walter Clive**
- Betty Trusner**
- Dennis Yellina**
- Val Polk**
- Marilyn Thoreson**
- Fran Heuton**

- Irma Mishler**
- Chuck Dolejs**
- Ron Barr**
- Debby Vance**
- John Ohlendorf**
- Howard and Dorothy Czerwonka**

Our prayers of comfort and condolence are with the family of Gladys Krook, who entered eternal life June 14.

Our prayers for support and guidance continue for the members of the Call Committee as they search for our new pastor.

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).



HAPPY BIRTHDAY & ANNIVERSARY

God's blessings to these August birthdays:

- Nancy Vogt 8/1
- Billie Williams 8/1
- Max Mitchell 8/3
- Charlotte Davis 8/7
- Corey Durham 8/7
- Roger Rice 8/9
- Logan Warren 8/9
- Steve Thoms 8/10
- Cleon Trusner 8/16
- Don Maas 8/20
- Louise Rice 8/21
- Meredith Riekhof 8/24
- Kris Searcy 8/27

Tom & Sunny Neathamer 8/11

Jim & Nancy Vogt 8/28

If information is missing or incorrect on this list, please let Patti Smith know.



We celebrate with these couples having a August anniversaries:

- Roger & Louise Rice 8/3
- Don & Vivian Smith 8/7
- Fred & Tami Czerwonka 8/11

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

Thanks!

*Dear Friends at Faith,
I want to thank you all for your prayers, cards and calls at the time of my knee replacement surgery. They were greatly appreciated.*

*Yours in Christ,
Fammie Peter*

WELCA NOTES

“Act Boldly With Love”

Remember to join us for our monthly Bible studies. Both circles are continuing to use the Bible studies found in the Lutheran Woman Today magazine that focus on bold women in the Bible.

August Meeting Schedule:

Sunshine Circle will not meet during the summer months, and will resume their meetings in September.

Wheaton Friendship Circle meets at 7 pm **Tuesday, August 15** at church.

Joint Quarterly Meeting 10:00 AM **Saturday, September 9.**

Loaves and Fishes Serving Dates:

Saturday, September 16
(youth will prepare and serve this date)

Saturday, December 9

Please mark your calendar to help support this important community service project.



The joint WELCA quarterly meeting was held on Saturday, June 3rd. There was a brief business meeting followed by a self-defense presentation. We would like to thank Gary Woods, retired Jeffersonville police officer, for taking his time to talk to the group. Also, please take time to read the minutes of the quarterly meeting in case you were unable to attend.

WELCA has continued to offer Bible studies during the summer months. The Wheaton Friendship Circle is meeting during the summer months at the regularly scheduled time. We were happy to see so many ladies at the Bible study during the summer months and hope that it will be possible for these ladies to continue to join us this fall.

The Sunshine Circle has taken a break over the summer and will resume their Bible studies in September. August will conclude the study of acting boldly. September will be the beginning of a new Bible study found in Lutheran Woman Today magazine, entitled *Hope in God in Times of Suffering*. Below is an overview of the study. Please 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.

WELCA continues to support the Loaves and Fishes project. This is a wonderful project that fulfills a great need for the hungry in our community by preparing and serving a

CARRIE MCCOY

meal on Saturdays. WELCA would like to thank all of the volunteers that served on July 8th. Although this is a WELCA sponsored project, anyone from the congregation can sign up to help. We would not be able to commit to this project without these volunteers, so we are very grateful and appreciative for all your hard work.

Thank you to all the volunteers for altar guild. Feel free to check the sign up sheet on the bulletin board in the narthex for the list of volunteers for the remainder of the year. If you cannot be there one Sunday in the month, please contact someone to cover for you or ask someone to sign up to share the responsibility with you that month.

Upcoming Bible Study: *Hope in God in Times of Suffering*

(excerpted from *Lutheran Woman Today* website)

Christians, like all people, often struggle to make sense of suffering. Beginning with the September 2006 issue of *Lutheran Woman Today* and continuing through May of 2007, Faith and Terence Fretheim explore suffering, a word they claim we use too freely. “We use it to refer to everything from a headache to the holocaust.”

Suffering is a fact of life; nearly everyone suffers at some time, and not all of us suffer equally, the writers posit. Why is that? Suffering can be personal, as in a serious illness or an accident, or it can be communal, such as this nation experienced after Hurricane Katrina or the attacks of September 11.

Our Bible study writers make distinctions among types of suffering, causes of suffering, and the ways we can respond to it. The key question they will explore is, “What will we do with our suffering?”

Each session is filled with information, probing questions, and Bible passages. We hope the sessions will spark reflection, conversation and prayer. Join in the journey as we explore the different realities of suffering, the relationship to God and suffering, and the hope that emerges from suffering.

LIBRARY NEWS

Here is a listing of some additional library items purchased from the Irene Clive memorial fund. I'd also like to remind you that as a church member, you are encouraged to check out any library item you wish any time you come to church. Just sign and date the book card and leave it on the desk. Return the borrowed item to the desk within a month's time so that someone else can use it. Please don't think that the library isn't for you, because it was for YOU that it was created. Don't be shy in taking advantage of the free resources available to all of us. And while you're there, please notice the beautiful wall-hanging above the picture books of two young children sharing a book. It is the creation of two of our talented and generous members, Nancy and Jim Falkenstein.

ADULT BOOKS

DON'T KNOW MUCH ABOUT THE BIBLE : EVERYTHING YOU NEED TO KNOW ABOUT THE GOOD BOOK BUT NEVER LEARNED, by Kenneth Davis. We all have a lot of

questions about the Bible. The Lutheran educated author answers a lot of the most commonly asked ones and the ones most misunderstood.

THE HENDRICKSON PARALLEL BIBLE. This is the complete Bible in four versions, all on the same page. It contains the KING JAMES VERSION, NEW KING JAMES VERSION, NEW INTERNATIONAL VERSION and NEW LIVING TRANSLATION.

A SHEPHERD LOOKS AT PSALM 23, by W. Phillip Keller. Today, few of us know what it really meant to be a shepherd. The author was a shepherd and is able to explain to us what David really meant when he wrote this most famous psalm.

A SIMPLE PATH, by Mother Teresa. This most well-known contemporary missionary shares her own personal thoughts and beliefs.

WE ARE ALL THE SAME. A STORY OF A BOY'S COURAGE AND A MOTHER'S LOVE, by Jim Wooten, a well-known American newsman. This is the true story of a young South African boy afflicted with AIDS whose life touched many people.

MAKING THE MOST OF

YOUR MONEY, by Jane Bryant Quinn. It may seem a bit strange to have a book about personal finance on a church library shelf, but making wise decisions about money is an integral part of being a good Christian steward. The author explains what we need to know at every stage of our lives, in a way that is very easy to understand.

GILEAD, a spiritual novel by Marilynne Robinson, and winner of the 2005 Pulitzer Prize for fiction. It is a serenely beautiful, thoughtful story of an elderly pastor who writes the history of the family for his young son who will grow up without him.

CHILDREN'S DVDS
VEGGIETALES : DUKE AND THE GREAT PIE WAR. A lesson in loving your family.
VEGGIETALES : LORD OF THE BEANS. A lesson in using your gifts.
VEGGIETALES : SHEERLUCK HOLMES AND THE GOLDEN RULER. A lesson in friendship.

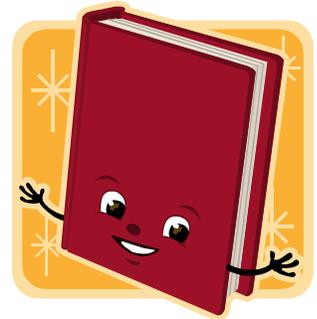
ADULT COMPACT DISCS AND CASSETTES

NANCY THOMPSON

WHAT A WONDERFUL WORLD, a music compact disc by Anne Murray.

THE MESSAGE. The entire Bible in contemporary language on 66 compact discs in 6 separate volumes.

NEW KING JAMES VERSION AUDIO BIBLE. The entire Bible on 48 audio cassettes in 4 separate volumes.



**Worship time
changes to 10:30
on Sunday,
September 3**

WEEKDAY CHURCH SCHOOL

CAROL TAYLOR

Weekday church school will resume for its 23rd year on September 12th. There will be a parents meeting at Faith Lutheran on Thursday, August 31st at 7:00 pm. School policy and rules will be discussed along with the schedule for the year and for each day's classes.

There will be three classes meeting every Tuesday and Thursday morning from 9:15 to 12:15 am. There will be two first year classes.

The younger class will be led by Peg Gernand with Debbie Lake, a parent, helping her. Charlotte Davis will lead the older first year children and her faithful helper will be Edie Maas. Each of these classes will have 13 children in them. Barb Brewster will be the Music leader for all three classes. She will also act as secretary for the 30 Pre-K children. Carol Taylor will serve as lead teacher for these children. They will be divided into 4 groups of 7 or 8 children with 2 teachers for each group. This gives them a 4 to 1 child to teacher ratio. Even though the class is large, they will be relating to the teachers in a small group. Terri Barr

will take the lead role for the pre-K art projects and will have Demarris Scott as her helper. Edith Woodward will be leading the Thursday art class along with Demarris. Skills class will be led again by Toni Hedrick. We are looking for a helper for her as well as two people to help the children with games and physical education skills. Academics will be taught by Barb and Carol.

We welcome anyone who has a love for teaching and working with young children to consider helping one or both days a week. All of the teachers in this program volunteer their time. There are no salaries paid. This is why the requested tuition has remained at \$75 for the year. A hug, a "I combed my hair just for you teacher" is wonderful payment for a job that is fun to do. Anyone interested in helping in any way, please call Carol Taylor at 228-1329. For some of these children this school may be the only Christian education they will ever receive. We plant the seed and hope it grows. Come and be a gardener in God's garden.

As of now we have 7 children waiting for a chance to enter the first year program and 10 children who would like to be a part of the pre-K program. Three schools in the Clark County district recommend us to parents who ask for referrals.

We are also being recommended by the Step One early intervention program. If only we had more space and more teachers we could run two Pre-K programs as well as the two First-year programs. If anyone wins the lottery, I sure would love to move out the back wall and add more classroom space to our building.

After our donation of \$1400 to Faith General Fund to help cover the cost of insurance, utilities, and secretarial help, \$450 to Miller Transportation for the last day of school bus trip to the dairy farm and \$78 for stamps to mail the VBS and Weekday registrations, we ended the year with a balance of \$3049.71. Of this balance \$1625 is pre registration for 2006-07, so we have \$1424.71 to use for supplies to start up in



2006-07. Some of this will be used to fund art supplies for the vacation Bible School program. Any supplies will then be used by weekday and Sunday school during the coming year.

Shopping with Stewardship Meijers and Kroger Rewards Programs

Did you know that Faith participates in rewards programs at both Meijers and Kroger? Those members who purchase from these stores can help raise funds for Faith by signing up for the programs.

The programs work differently, so please take time to inquire about them the next time you visit these stores.

It can really help!



STATE FAIR BOOTH FOR LUTHERANS DICK KLEMENS

Again this year, our conference will sponsor a booth at the Kentucky State Fair. I have requested that we have two slots each session on Friday, August 18. We will need volunteers to sign up for the following time slots. 9-12; 12-3; 3-6; 6-8; 8-10. Anyone interested in volunteering should contact Dick Klemens. Volunteer training sessions

will be held at Christ Lutheran Church in Louisville on Tuesday, August 8 at 11 am and 7 pm. Volunteers only need to attend one session.

If you cannot volunteer on that date but would like to consider the same time slots for the following dates, please see me for a form to be completed by volunteers.

Thu, Aug 17; Sat, Aug 19; Sun, Aug 20; Mon, Aug 21; Tue, Aug 22; Wed, Aug 23; Thu, Aug 24; Fri, Aug 25; Sat, Aug 26; Sun, Aug 27.

NEWS AND NOTES

HELP WANTED:

WANTED: A teacher for Sunday Church School for youngsters. We are looking for a volunteer (or volunteers) to teach the elementary-middle school aged children Sunday School class. Material provided, job sharing certainly accepted. Please contact Carol Taylor at 502-228-1329

◆ **Congratulations to Linda Romine,** whose article "A Lutheran in Margaritaville" was in the July issue of *The Lutheran*

◆ **Thrivent Thanks:** Thanks to everyone who helped with the Thrivent yard sale in June. Your donations and volunteer help

was quite appreciated and helped make it a great success, raising \$295 that will go toward choir and tables and chairs for the fellowship hall.

CENTER FOR LAY MINISTRIES

SUE NEATHAMER

The 50/50 Campaign

For Fifty days between Easter and Pentecost, CLM did their annual food campaign. The good news is: Faith Lutheran gathered between 900 and 1,000 pounds of food during this time. The bad news is: The total amount of food collected from all churches and businesses was about 15,000 pounds. The goal was 50,000 pounds in 50 days. The Board is coming up with ideas on how to have more a more successful campaign

next year.

Kids Café

Kid's Café continues to serve meals on Wednesday and Friday at 4:30pm. More meals are being served now that school is out for the summer. The preparation and serving is all done by our faithful volunteers.

Bliss House

During 2005, the Bliss House had 23 admissions. Of those 23, 14 graduated the Bliss House Program

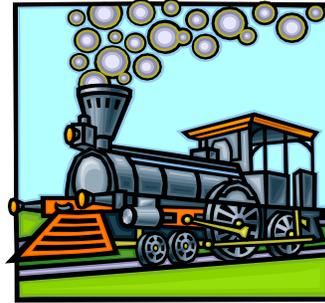
and 13 of them are still clean and sober. On June 1, 2006 at a ceremony held at Clark Superior Court II, three Bliss House graduates also graduated from the Clark County Drug Court Program. It works! It really does!

A big thank-you goes to Thrivent Financial and the Faith members who helped with the 2nd Annual Bliss House Dinner and Auction. Bliss House received \$1000.00 from Thrivent for this Care in Communities project.

VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL

We would like to give a big Thank You to all who have stepped up to help in any way with this year's Vacation Bible School. We expect the church to be as busy as a New York train station at rush hour. The children should enjoy the week's activities and learn five New Testament stories. Twenty-seven adults have offered their time to work with the children during the week. Thanks also to those church members who are not counted

in this daily count, but who have volunteered to bring things for snacks, or cookies for the closing program and for Hot Dog day on Friday. It truly does take a village {church congregation} to raise a child in the Christian Faith. Thanks to all who had a part in this fellowship outreach into the community, and into the world! Designated offerings are being sent on to the National church to help people in Nicaragua. Our offerings at Gospel Express



will help these families build permanent houses in which they can live better lives after the desolation caused by Hurricane Mitch.

Two young men will at-

CAROL TAYLOR

Climb Aboard the Gospel Express!

VBS

July 24-28

9 am—noon

tend First Communion instruction with Pastor John during this week and will be welcomed at the Lord's table for the first time July 30. Our prayer for them is that God will continue to direct their lives in service for Him.

CHRISTIAN EDUCATION

The Christian Education Committee would like to thank those who took their time to fill out our questionnaire for Christian education programs and timing of these events. 15 forms were returned to the office. Those of you who took the time to respond obviously cared about the results so we will base our decision on your input. Below are the questions and the responses received.

1. If an alternative to Sunday morning was offered for Christian education classes, what days would you prefer? First Choice Sunday evening, Second choice Wednesday evening.

2. If the classes were held

- on a weekday evening, would it be helpful to you if a meal was provided? Yes it would help us attend, 8 votes; No it would not be helpful, 7 votes. This one is close and will take some discussion by the committee before a decision it made.

3. What format would you like to see for an alternative program? Bible Study, 6 votes (It looks there is some real interest here). Family activities with break out sessions by age, 4 votes (2 people also chose that games and activities be included in this plan).

4. If alternative classes are offered, would you attend both Sunday and the alter-

native? Yes, 6 votes; Sunday church school only, 7 votes; Alternative time only, 1 vote. This also needs further study and discussion.

Some additional comments:

1. Please do not change Sunday school to a week day and eliminate Sunday.
2. Any evening is great, especially for a Bible study.
3. I have to work on Sunday morning and cannot get my family to Sunday School and church on Sunday. I would really like to see the Wednesday night alternative.

Thanks for your re-

CAROL TAYLOR

sponses. We'll let you know where we go from here!

Pastor is willing to and plans to continue the Revelation Class through August, but he will bring it up for a class discussion on Sunday morning. Watch the bulletin for information about this class. If we continue through August, we will need more volunteers to work with the children during this time. Thanks to all who have taught so far. The children enjoyed "dressing" the lamb door stops and became more aware of the changes in the liturgical colors on the altar.

PRESIDENT'S LETTER

Summer is flying by and so is 2006! As I read "PJ's Jots", I could hardly believe he's been with us five months already. We are blessed to have his continued leadership during our call process.

As you've probably heard by now, the Call Committee is now awaiting another name for the screening and interview process. We will keep them in our prayers as they continue to look for our next pastor.

Council is currently reviewing the bylaws which we will be presenting to the congregation for adoption at the next annual meeting. As most of you recall, the last time our bylaws were updated was in 1994. There were a few significant changes made that year; i.e., term length for council members and quorum requirements for meetings. Unfortunately, we can't locate a paper copy of those bylaws anywhere, so we are recreating these bylaws based on our collective memories of what was changed and are recommending some further changes which will be presented to you at a later date.

One of the areas Council is suggesting to change is in the area of the committee structure. Following our

workshop in April, we agreed that having "teams" as opposed to "committees" offers some benefits that may be overlooked at first glance. Primarily, the word "committee" is defined as "a group of people appointed or chosen to perform a function on behalf of a larger group". No problem, right? But it is a passive term, and often lends itself to a hierarchy that stagnates in the process. Many churches are now going to a "team" concept, which is an active term that encourages more even participation of each individual in the group toward a particular goal.

If you take time to look at the Council minutes over the last few months, you will notice on the committee reports that many of the committees have no report. It's not because they aren't doing anything, necessarily, but more likely that the roles are being performed by individuals who aren't meeting as a committee. For instance, Evangelism ... we are all charged with evangelism as part of our Christian faith. And we are evangelizing in many ways; through small gift bags and information to visitors (Tami Czerwonka and others have accepted this task), cards sent to members for their birth-

days and other significant events (Beth Landis has accepted this duty), visits to our homebound (the OWLS have taken this on as a project), the website (Rick Barr's baby), and many other areas. This is wonderful, but without knowledge of what one another is doing we can be less effective and end up tripping over each other in our efforts. One of the teams we are suggesting in the new bylaws is a Parish Life and Outreach Team. Service and social groups within the congregation will be part of this team.

Another team we are suggesting is a Mutual Ministry Team. This team will serve as a resource for the pastor and the congregation to focus on the wellbeing and concerns of both parties. The team will ensure that the Pastor is being cared for spiritually and emotionally and it would also be the first line of communication for members to voice concerns they may have about the pastor.

Some of the teams won't change much in terms of their roles: Christian Education, Youth, Property Management, and Stewardship will remain much the same as they are now. Our goal is to have more dynamic and active groups to

MARSHA WOODS

work toward our mission.

Council will review the draft of the Bylaws in more detail at the next meeting, August 13. Shortly thereafter, we will make a copy available to all members for review and input well before action in January of 2007.

We are already starting to think about council members to serve beginning in 2007. We will need to replace five council members. Are you interested in serving?

We give thanks that our youth enjoyed a safe trip to and from San Antonio. I can't wait to hear their presentation on July 30 about their trip. If you get a chance, ask them to share some of their memories. Thanks to Veronica Rife and Chuck Landis for volunteering as chaperones!

Finally, thanks to all who are volunteering to help with VBS this year. It promises to be another fun and exhilarating week, which couldn't be accomplished without the help of many, many people.

The momentum continues...come be part of it as we work toward our mission!



AUGUST
2006

NEWSLETTER

*Join the Gospel Express
VBS July 24-28 9 am to noon!*

2014 Allison Lane
Jeffersonville, IN 47130
Rev. John Hawkins, Pastor
Church Office 812-282-6993
www.flcjeff.org

FAITH LUTHERAN CHURCH
EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN
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SERVING AT FAITH WORSHIP SERVICES FOR THE MONTH OF AUGUST

USHERS: PEG & LYLE GERNAND AND CARRIE & MATT MCCOY
ALTAR GUILD: CARRIE MCCOY AND PEG GERNAND
FINANCIAL ASSISTANT: CRAIG WARREN

WEEKLY ASSISTANTS:

<u>SUN.</u>	<u>ASSISTANT</u>	<u>ACOLYTE</u>	<u>NURSERY</u>	<u>SOCIAL</u>	<u>GREETERS</u>
6	Kirsten McCoy	Samantha McCoy	Linda Romine	J & C Taylor	Czerwonkas
13	Virginia Klemens	Jordan Searcy	Kathy Johnson	Thrivent	McCoys
20	Kristine Young	Kristina Peter	Veronica Rife	McCoys	Haires
27	Meredith Riekhof	Katie Rife	Kathy Hayes	?	Holmans