



# THE FAITHFUL NEWS

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

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

MAY, 2006



## PJ'S JOTS

Many years ago I read a book entitled 1984 by George Orwell. It is a book about how the future might look. I enjoyed reading the book as a life satire and also as kind of a science fiction. One of the elements of 1984 that stuck in my mind over the many years is the discussion of the official language of Oceania (the England of 1984 in Orwell's fantasy) which was "Newspeak". "Newspeak" was the process of getting rid of words that were deemed useless and redundant. Here is a paragraph from chapter 5 of 1984:

'It's a beautiful thing, the destruction of words. Of course the great wastage is in the verbs and adjectives, but there are hundreds of nouns that can be got rid of as well. It isn't only the synonyms; there are also the antonyms. After all, what justification is there for a word which is simply the opposite of some other word? A word contains its opposite in itself. Take "good", for instance. If you have a word like "good", what need is there for a word like "bad"? "Ungood" will do just as well -- better, because it's an exact opposite, which the other is not. Or again, if you want a stronger version of "good", what sense is there in having a whole string of vague useless words like "excellent" and "splendid" and all the rest of them? "Plusgood" covers the meaning, or "doubleplusgood" if you want something stronger still. Of course we use those forms already. But in the final version of Newspeak there'll be nothing else. In the end the whole notion of goodness and badness will be covered by only six words -- in reality, only one word. Don't you see the beauty of that, ..."

Well we all know that Orwell's 1984 never really came into being; however it might deserve reconsideration as world events have unfolded in our recent history and the actions we as a nation are taking to protect ourselves. I do think, however, that our language is taking on the characteristics of "Newspeak".

It seems that in the world of technology those "technoheads" that are connected use a process on their mobile communication devices (cell phones) called "Text Messaging". It is a shorthand process for communication. Recently someone shared a text message on a leadership forum I am a part of as we were discussing this process of communication and the impact it may have on the church. I want to share this text message with you and challenge you to translate it. I am not going to put the translation in this newsletter, but will provide it to any one wishing to check what they have or who are just curious to what it is saying. Have fun:

dad@hvn,ur spshl.we want wot u want&urth2b like hvn.giv us food&4giv r sins lyk we 4giv  
uvaz.don't test us!save us!bcos we kno ur boss,ur tuf&ur cool 4 eva!ok?

Shalom,

PJ

Faith is on line!

Check out our new website at  
[www.FLCJeff.org](http://www.FLCJeff.org)

## FINANCE MATTERS



Spring is my favorite time of year! All the newness and freshness – a new beginning. My favorite time to have Easter is as late in the calendar year as it can be – spring and flowers and all things new and fresh just seem to go with Easter and God’s great sacrifice of his Son for us!

In a book written by Kennon L. Callahan, entitled “Giving and Stewardship in an Effective Church”, Mr. Callahan emphasizes four stages to stewardship development. They are: 1) receiving and accepting; 2) growing and investing; 3) returning and restoring; and 4) giving and generosity. These stages are illustrated in the parable of the talents in Matthew 25:14-30. The first stage emphasizes that people need to learn to receive and accept the gifts they have been given (the talents were accepted by all three servants); the second emphasizes that we must put

our gifts (talents) to work; the third stage says we must learn to return the gifts (talents), plus the increase, to the master (God); and the fourth stage is to understand that God seeks to teach us generosity and giving. God graciously receives what we give back, and then gives and shares yet more with us: gracious receivers become generous givers.

The key to learning how to give according to Mr. Callahan is first learning how to receive. In receiving we learn how to give. Those who give well are those who have learned to receive well. When we graciously receive what has been given, we give out of compassion and generosity and love, not out of duty or obligation. Therefore, an important first step in our stewardship journey is to learn how to accept and receive.

PEG GERNAND

The season of Lent and the glorious resurrection of our Lord, teaches us to accept and receive! Thanks to all of you who have generously given back to God because you have graciously accepted his most precious gift of his Son!

Our approved budget requires \$14,885 per month in income. January - March, receipts to the budget were \$42,554, short of the required amount by \$2088, even with the additional Lenten Service offerings. It’s always important to keep current with our obligations, but potential pastoral candidates will look at our finances as part of their decision process. As we head into vacation season, please remember that the work of the church continues year round.

Thanks also for all you do to support the many ministries at Faith Lutheran Church.

The Call Committee has received the first candidate. After review of the profile the committee will conduct an interview. The committee has agreed to accept and interview one candidate at a time. Please continue to keep us in your prayers.

## CENTER FOR LAY MINISTRIES

The 50/50 Campaign is underway! Starting on Easter Sunday CLM is trying to collect 50,000 pounds of food in 50 days (the Easter season).

Faith, along with many other Clark County churches and businesses, is participating in this event.

Our goal at Faith is to collect 1000 pounds in these 50 days. Besides canned goods, we are in need of

laundry detergent (powdered so we can split up into several packages) and toilet paper. Anyone taking food to the Center will have it weighed and recorded. At press time we’ve donated 97 lbs and \$128!

This campaign will hopefully give the Center enough food to get through the summer months when children are not getting

SUE NEATHAMER



**50  
pounds  
in 50  
days**

We can do it!

Bring nonperishables, canned goods, powdered laundry detergent, toilet paper or money between Easter and Pentecost (June 4) to help CLM fill their shelves for the summer demand.

## YOUTH NEWS

April was a busy month for the youth. Every Sunday after church, the youth rehearsed for "Eyes Upon the Cross." On Good Friday, April 14th, the youth presented the play for the congregation. About 70 people attended the service. The show went very well, and everyone did a great job!! Many thanks go to the Taylors, who directed the play, and put a lot of time and effort into this successful production. We also thank Josh Emily for narrating the play. April 15th was "Busy Saturday", a well earned name! The youth prepared CLM eggs to collect an offering, made Easter baskets for the seniors, and prepared for the Easter Breakfast taking place the next morning. The Easter Breakfast raised

\$419 to help pay for youth to go to Lutheran Hills for confirmation class. 93 people enjoyed the delicious breakfast buffet. Thanks to all the youth and parents for their work, and especially to Beth Landis, who coordinated the effort in the Taylors' absence. We want thank everyone who was able to attend. After worship, the younger children enjoyed an Easter egg hunt inside, since the weather wasn't cooperating for an outside hunt.

April 28-30 was the retreat to Lutheran Hills. This is an important weekend for the confirmation youth filled with both fun and serious activities.

As of this print deadline, no youth activities for May are confirmed. Please con-

KIRSTEN MCCOY  
 continue to look for upcoming events in the weekly worship bulletins.



Caption describing picture or graphic.

## OWLS

Spring Greetings to all OWLS!  
 Trip to St. Meinrad Arch Abbey May 20

Winter's over, and spring is in the air! Are you ready for a Spring Fling? Then join the OWLS Saturday, May 20, on a trip to St. Meinrad Arch Abbey for a tour of the Abbey, an afternoon of sightseeing, shopping at Abbey Press, at-

tending vesper service at the Abbey, and eating dinner in the St. Meinrad Visitor Center. We'll meet at the church parking lot at 12:30 to carpool. We expect to be back to church around 9:00. Everyone is welcome!

To join the fun, sign up at church, or call Nancy Falkenstein at 944-9408, or Arlys Johnson at 944-2219. Let us know if you will need transportation or

if you are willing to drive. We look forward to seeing you!

Did you know that OWLS are sponsoring a church visitation program on the first Sunday of each month? As there are a number of members of our church who are homebound or in nursing homes, and there are others who haven't been to church in quite awhile, the OWLS are leading a mission to

NANCY FALKENSTEIN

visit these people on the first Sunday afternoon of each month. We need help. See Arlys for details and sign up to visit. You can find a guide to help you enjoy your visit together after church.

That is the OWL motto - fun, friendship, fellowship, food, and most of all - service!



Caption describing picture or graphic.

## PRAYER REQUESTS

We ask God's special healing for:

**Dot Clerici**

**Kay Winn**

**Eric Hall**

**Walter Clive**

**Dorothy McCall**

**Dennis Yellina**

**Val Polk**

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

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

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

**Bob Barr** (Rick's dad undergoing tests and surgery)

**Ron Barr** (Rick's brother undergoing tests)

Anne Steaban and her family at the loss of her brother, Francis Brunelle, in Michigan.

For the members of the Call Committee as they continue the 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 May birthdays:*

|                 |      |
|-----------------|------|
| Chris Holman    | 5/1  |
| Kirsten McCoy   | 5/4  |
| Dennis Johnson  | 5/5  |
| Dick Klemens    | 5/10 |
| Cindy Warren    | 5/13 |
| Terri Barr      | 5/14 |
| Amber Vogt      | 5/15 |
| Greta Gilberts  | 5/17 |
| Amanda Winn     | 5/20 |
| Rick Barr       | 5/21 |
| Regan Zimmerman | 5/22 |
| Katie Rife      | 5/24 |
| Amy Durham      | 5/29 |

*We celebrate with these couples having May anniversaries:*

|                        |      |
|------------------------|------|
| Carrie & Matt McCoy    | 5/1  |
| Kathy & Tom Hayes      | 5/15 |
| Teri & Todd Taylor     | 5/25 |
| Terri & Rick Barr      | 5/29 |
| Arlys & Dennis Johnson | 5/31 |



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

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 hope that we can get more ladies in attendance at these Bible studies. WELCA is for women of all ages, so please feel free to join us. Also, if you are someone that regularly attends the meetings, invite someone that you have not seen at a

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

**Wheadon Friendship Circle** meets at 7 pm **Tuesday, May 16** at church.

**Saturday, June 3, 10 am** — **WELCA Joint Quarterly Meeting**

## Women <sup>of the</sup> ELCA

meeting to join you. It is a great opportunity to study and grow in our faith and share fellowship with other women in the church.

The Bible studies are about bold women in the Bible as 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 May meeting times are listed to the left.

A pewter paten and chalice were recently dedicated for use during communion. They were purchased with proceeds from the cookbook sales. They are a nice accompaniment to the silver communion set we have used for years.

### CARRIE MCCOY



Caption describing picture or graphic.



An earthenware communion set was recently dedicated to the glory of ~~God~~ <sup>the memory of</sup> Bob Davis. The paten and chalice will be used for communion and the flagon will be used to fill the baptismal font. Thanks to Charlotte Davis for allocating these funds from Bob's memorial for this purpose.





## LIBRARY NEWS

By the time you receive this newsletter, both Easter and Earth Day will have passed. I'd like to write about Earth Day, which we just celebrated on April 22<sup>nd</sup>. The day is set aside for us to think about God's awesome creation and our responsibility toward it.

God gave us dominion over all life, both plant and animal alike. When you think about it, that's quite a big responsibility that we seldom take into consideration on a day-by-day basis. Basically, we in America have all that we need with unbelievably abundant resources, but others don't. Are others any less worthy than we are, in God's eyes? Of course not. But I think it is easy for us to dismiss those who are different from us, whether they live close by, or far away. It is up to us to share what we have with others, who are equally worthy as children of God. I was especially reminded of this just re-

cently when Al and I went to hear a group of 8 to 11 year old children from Africa sing praises to God with more passion and enthusiasm than I have ever heard before, despite the fact that they are all orphans, victims of poverty and AIDS.

So what can we do? First of all, we should become aware of the many problems that do exist both here and around the world. You can begin by reading one of our newest books written by Jane Goodall, who is affectionately called the Chimpanzee Lady. It is called **HARVEST FOR HOPE: A GUIDE TO MINDFUL EATING**. Contrary to what the title implies, it's not just about promoting the benefits of eating organic foods. It's so much more. She tells how and why soils are being depleted, water systems polluted and diverse cultures forever changed. She then offers suggestions on what

NANCY THOMPSON

we as individuals can do about it. The natural inclination is to think that you, as a single individual, couldn't possibly make a difference, but you can and you will, if enough people do something, ANYTHING. Jane, the gentle, spiritual dreamer and immensely respected scientist, says to begin by doing what you feel comfortable doing. Some of the simple things you can do are to save rainwater to water your garden, use fewer or even no chemicals on your lawn (and have a greener, healthier lawn as a result), eat less meat, or save trees by eliminating junk mail ([www.newdream.org](http://www.newdream.org)). Anything you do will help you and your neighbor, which is exactly what God asked us to do at the beginning of time. He continues to ask this of you and me, right here and right now.

## WWW.FLCJEFF.ORG



Our new website is up and running! Thanks to Rick Barr, you can now log on to [www.flcjeff.org](http://www.flcjeff.org) and keep up with the latest news about what's going on with Faith!

The site will be updated regularly, and includes a map to guide visitors to us, informa-

tion on the ministries we support, our worship schedule, links to the synod and national websites, newsletters and council minutes from the beginning of 2006, and much more!

The launch of this website allies us with a small group of

congregations our size who offer this communication tool. As a resource, more people look to the internet for information now than consult the yellow pages. We're blessed to have Rick and his talents to help us create yet another way to reach out to others.

## WEEKDAY CHURCH SCHOOL

Pastor John plans to offer a class to any adults and Sr. High youth on a study of the book of Revelations. This class will replace Lyle Gernand's class, Carol Taylor's class and the senior high class during the regular Sunday School time each Sun in May 7, 14, and 21.

The last day of Sunday school will be Sunday May 21. Pastor's class on the book of Revelation will discuss when and how they might want to continue this study after this date. Two possibilities are to continue to meet before or after church during the sum-

mer, or to meet on a Tuesday evening as a Bible Study class during the summer. These possibilities will be discussed by the members of the class before May 21.

Attendance of children in the elementary grades has been awful on Sunday mornings. Two Sundays in a row there have been zero--none---nobody in this class during the 9:15 time period. Michelle Mitchell has had 2 or 3 children in the pre-school class that meets during church, but there are 8 to 10 children on the rolls for these age groups who we are not seeing in Sun-

day school. The Middle school group has one half of the children who should be in class. The senior high group is averaging 3 to 4 students each Sunday.

Because of the problem listed above, there was a Christian Education Meeting for anyone interested in trying to help us solve this problem on Tuesday evening, April 25th We will send a letter to all parents of children in these classes with information on what was decided and asking for your help in solving this Christian education problem. These new

CAROL TAYLOR



ideas will be started next fall when Sunday School resumes for school year 2006-2007.

## CHRISTIAN EDUCATION

### **Vacation Bible School**

Vacation Bible school will be held July 24th through July 28th. There will be classes for children who will be three years old by August 1, 2006. The oldest classes for children will be for those children who have just finished 6th grade. Once they have been confirmed we welcome them onto the staff to serve as helpers in the VBS program. We still have several openings on the staff. If you wish to

help, see the sign up sheet on the table under the youth bulletin board. Please sign up and climb aboard the Gospel Express. That is the title for this year's program. This year's stories include The story of Jesus' birth, the wedding feast at Cana, Jesus forgives us- the story of Simon, the parable of the lost sheep, and Jesus blessing the children. We hope to see all of you aboard the Gospel Express. There will

be a STAFF MEETING, TUESDAY, MAY 9, at 7:00 pm. We hope many teachers and helpers can and will be present so we can all get our train cars hooked together and on the same track for another successful Bible School.

### **Lutheran Hills Summer Camp Planning Meeting**

Attention all children and youth who plan to go to camp Lutheran Hills this

CAROL TAYLOR

summer! Many of you would like to go the same week. This helps children be assured that they will know someone at camp. There will be a planning meeting for these children and their parents after church on Sunday May 7. We will look at available dates, collect money and registration forms so that all children from the congregation can send in their forms in one envelope. This should help get them into camp with a friend. If you plan to go to summer camp, please plan to attend this meeting.

## PRESIDENT'S LETTER

What a wonderful Lenten journey we enjoyed! The culmination of the season, Holy Week, was one of the most moving spiritual experiences I can remember. I hope you took advantage of all that was offered so that you, too, gained a new level of personal growth in faith.

The Lenten services offered very personal accounts of Christ's sacrifice for us. Palm Sunday's service was joyful and energizing. Maundy Thursday's service was a somber reminder of the pain and suffering. The youth offered an *out-standing* performance of "Eyes Upon the Cross" on Good Friday, with eight scenes enacting renditions of personal accounts from various perspectives. And the Easter services were both celebrations of the good news of Christ's resurrection (Alleluia! Christ is risen! YES! He is risen indeed). Those of you who attended will get my drift.

The Easter breakfast served by the youth was a smashing success. This year was buffet style, delicious as always, and profitable for the youth!

As we now move through the Easter season, we move fully into the spring season, where signs of renewal and growth are visible every

day, not only in nature, but within our congregation as well.

As of this writing, Council is preparing to spend an afternoon in a workshop to expand our understanding of leadership expectations in today's ministries. The Constitution Committee will meet May 7 to talk about updates and revisions to the bylaws to bring to the congregation for approval.

The Call Committee has begun to receive names of potential candidates and will follow their process until they have a candidate to recommend.

In the meantime, we are enjoying the pastoral care of PJ, both in terms of his energy, his knowledge, and his personal concern for our wellbeing. I'm getting many requests, "Can't we keep him?" But I have to tell you, the answer is no. He is one of a specialized group of ministers who perform particular roles in the lives of congregations such as ours. We will enjoy his presence and his leadership as long as it is God's plan and he will be forever with us in many ways.

Watch for news of an upcoming Bible study he plans to lead on Monday or Tuesday evenings by popular demand.

We are continuing our ministries to CLM, Loaves and Fishes and Lutheran Hills. Many of our members are actively involved and many others support these ministries with donations and money. Thanks to all of you for your support in whatever form. Are there other ministries of which you are aware that need our aid? Let us know.

We are grateful to Charlotte Davis and her family for the new stoneware paten, chalice and flagon that were purchased with funds from the Bob Davis memorial and were dedicated in April. And, thanks to WELCA, we now have an additional paten and chalice in pewter and a new Christ candle that is easier for the acolytes to reach. Additional linens were recently finished for use in communion as well.

We are a bit behind in contributions to our budget. Please do what you can to keep up with the amount you pledged. Remember, too, that amounts given toward particular projects do not count toward the pledged amount to the budget.

The OWLS are planning a field trip in May and are continuing their visits to the homebound on the first Sunday of each month. The

MARSHA WOODS

adult Sunday School class recently contacted members we haven't seen in a while to encourage them to return. These evangelism efforts are very important, and very appreciated.

Rick Barr has recently launched the website we've been planning for some time. The web address is [www.flcjeff.org](http://www.flcjeff.org). Rick did an outstanding job with this project, and has created a site that is loaded with information and is easy to navigate. You can link to the websites of the Synod and of the national church via our website, print directions to church, check out worship times, and find out about the ministries in which we're involved. You can also view previous issues of newsletters and council minutes (beginning January of 2006). The site will be updated as we go along. This is a terrific tool to reach a whole new demographic. Not many congregations our size have this communication tool, and we are committed to this project as yet another way to reach out to our community. Well done, Rick, and thank you!

Renewal and growth? You bet! Alleluia!



MAY 2006

# NEWSLETTER

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

FAITH LUTHERAN CHURCH  
 EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN  
 CHURCH IN AMERICA

NON-PROFIT ORGANIZATION  
 U.S. POSTAGE  
 PAID  
 PERMIT #90  
 JEFFERSONVILLE, IN 47130

## SERVING AT FAITH FOR THE MONTH OF MAY

**USHERS: JOHN TAYLOR, MIKE VECELIUS, JIM AND NANCY FALKENSTEIN**

**ALTAR GUILD: NANCY VOGT**

**FINANCIAL ASSISTANT: SCOTT RIFE**

## WEEKLY ASSISTANTS:

| <u>SUN.</u> | <u>ASSISTANT</u> | <u>ACOLYTE</u> | <u>CRUCIFER</u> | <u>NURSERY</u> | <u>SOCIAL</u> | <u>GREETERS</u> |
|-------------|------------------|----------------|-----------------|----------------|---------------|-----------------|
| 7           | Meredith Riekhof | W. Czerwonka   | K. Czerwonka    | Patti Smith    | ?             | Landis          |
| 14          | Eric Peter       | K. Peter       | J. Landis       | ?              | ?             | Maas            |
| 21          | Kirsten McCoy    | Jordan Searcy  | B. Searcy       | Kathy Farmer   | ?             | Emily           |
| 28          | Virginia Klemens | Katie Rife     | Sarah Rife      | Nancy Arbuckle | ?             | Winn            |