



THE FAITHFUL NEWS

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

OCTOBER, 2006



PJ'S JOTS

PASTOR JOHN

Hurrrrrray~~~~ Hurrrrrrrray~~~~

Hurrrrrrrray!!!!!!! Step right up and see what's in-

side!!!!!!! I remember those words from the sideshow barkers when I was growing up in Knox County Indiana and going to the county fair. They promised there to be sights that were beyond belief and even somewhat scary. I don't know if this process of calling people to come to see is still the activity of choice by the exhibitors at county fairs today, but there is a lesson to be learned when you really think about it.

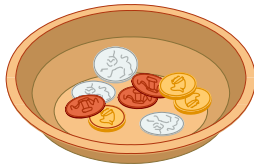
Now you may wonder what in the world we could learn from carnival barkers, but bear with me for just a little while. As I grew I began to understand what the job of the carnival barker was. Their job was to attract attention, even if just for a second. Just to get you thinking about what it is they want you to see or spend money on. Being a follower of Christ is somewhat along the same lines. Christ wants us to get peoples attention about the love God has for his children. Christ commissioned his disciples to go and make more disciples. Who in turn are to make more disciples and so on and so on. This is how the love God is spread. Making disciples for some people is, I think, scary business! We are afraid to be open about our faith and share what we know to be true about having God's love in our life. Maybe we don't feel that we are knowledgeable enough, or we are afraid that we will offend someone, or maybe we are just to embarrassed to talk about our faith in the open.

I guess maybe we think it is our job to try to convince someone that they should believe or accept what we say about God's love. Actually, this is where we should be more like the carnival barker. Mostly, I believe, it is our responsibility as disciples to attract the attention of the un-churched or the wayward soul by just inviting them to come and see. Then we need to pray that the Holy Spirit will enter into their lives and lead them to an understanding of God's love for them. So, **Hurrrrrrrray~~~~ Hurrrrrrrray~~~~**
Hurrrrrray!!!!!!! Come and See the love of God alive at Faith Lutheran.

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FINANCE MATTERS



In the coming weeks of October, you will be hearing a lot about something called Consecration Sunday. What is Consecration Sunday and when will it be?

Consecration Sunday is October 29 – Reformation Sunday. What is it? It is a Sunday when you will be asked to make a written commitment concerning your financial contribution to Faith Lutheran Church for 2007. Many of you will remember this program from last year and you will also remember the great response from all of our members. It is my feeling this response was in direct response to how Consecration Sunday was explained and presented to you during the month of October.

Instead of asking you to give to Faith Lutheran because we need to pay our bills, **you are asked to give in response to the spiritual benefits you have received.**

Instead of asking you to give to help Faith Lutheran balance its budget, **you are asked to give as a result of God calling you to give a certain**

percentage of your income back to Him to continue the work of His church.

Instead of hearing negative comments like, “Oh, no, it’s stewardship time again!” **We hope you will feel positive about your decision to give back to God a portion of the blessings you have experienced from Him.**

We will talk about financial stewardship from a Biblical perspective, not from a budget balancing perspective.

God’s grace empowers each of us to exhibit behaviors of personal faith commitment rather than a “have” to tithe commitment.

During the month of October you will hear personal witness from three of our

PEG GERNAND

members telling you why they feel a personal joy and commitment to giving back to God what He has so generously given to us. You will be invited to participate in and asked to reserve your place at a Celebration Luncheon after worship on Reformation Sunday – October 29. During that worship service you will also be asked to fill out your pledge card indicating what your financial commitment to Faith Lutheran Church will be in 2007.

Our response last year was so overwhelming and we know after hearing from your fellow members, you will give prayerful consideration to the many blessings you have experienced and do what you can to help with all of the ministries at Faith Lutheran.

I want to thank all of you for being faithful to your financial commitment this past year and to thank you in advance for participating in the Consecration Stewardship Program for 2007.

The Call Committee has received another name from Synod and is awaiting the paperwork.

Thank you for keeping us in your prayers.

Finance Recap as of August 31, 2006

Receipts (less designated)	\$114,342
Income required to meet budget	<u>120,225</u>
Total year to date income to budget	(5,883)
Interest from CD	<u>1,198</u>
Total above (below) budget	(\$ 4,685)

YOUTH NEWS

SARAH RIFE

In September, the youth went to Kart Kountry and had a big turn out. As for the month of October, the youth will have a meeting followed by Paint Ball on the 8th.

On October 27th, the youth will be throwing their annual Halloween Party and lock-in. After the Halloween Party, the youth will be going bowling.

The youth will also be selling t-shirts soon, to raise money for our Angel Tree project, the shirt's price range will be around \$8-\$10.

This year our church is lucky to have 3 foreign exchange students visiting us. One of the exchange students is Mai Otsuka. She is staying with the Rifles for the school year. Her parents are Kyoko Otsuka, and Hitoshi T. Otsuka. She has a twin sister named Yui, who is an exchange student in New Mexico right now. Mai is 16 years old, and she is from Tokyo, Japan. Her favorite sport is baseball, and her favorite color is blue. Her favorite Japanese food is, Tempura, and her favorite American food is a hamburger. What she expects is to make out of her trip to America is to make a lot of friends, im-

prove her English, and to have a lot of fun.

Youth Activities for October

- 8 Meeting and Paintball
- 27 6:30 set up for Halloween Party
- 7-8 host party
- 8-8:30 cleanup
- 8:30-11 Bowling Followed by Lock-in
- 7:30 am parents Pick up

OWLS (OLDER WISER LUTHERAN SOCIETY)

NANCY FALKENSTEIN

The OWLS (Older Wiser Lutherans) are at it again! More than 20 of us traveled to Oklahoma via Clarksville Little Theatre, on Sunday, September 10, then enjoyed a great meal and great company at Frank's Steak House.

We continue to work on projects. An ongoing project is that of visiting, calling, or sending cards to our homebound and to others in the church who might need our encouragement. We have the list available on the first Sunday of the month. See Arlys or Nancy to volunteer

to call upon, call, or write to someone in our church family who needs a little TLC. You don't have to be an OWLS member to choose a name!

Sometime in the middle of October (date to be announced) we are providing a Halloween party for elderly folks at the Ken Ellis Center, probably on a Wednesday afternoon. We will take refreshments, a little music, and a game or two to give our senior friends some fun (probably at our expense, but that's all right!)

On Saturday, October 28, at 5:30 p.m., we are meeting at Art and Edwina Anderegg's home for a Halloween party. Check our bulletin board at church for more details, as time draws nearer. Costumes? Hot dogs? Trick or treating? We'll let you know!

As you know, we continue to investigate the possibility of purchasing stained glass window hangings for our church. We are researching possibilities now. More to follow when we have more information!

Call Nancy Falkenstein



(944-9408) for more information, or, better yet, to volunteer to help!

PRAYER REQUESTS, CONCERNS AND CELEBRATIONS

We ask God's special healing for:

- Dot Clerici**
- Hallie Kusch**
- Kay Winn**
- Bill Winn**
- Roger and Louise Rice**
- Barbara Morris-Nix**
- Fammie Peter**
- Lisa Peter**
- Walter Clive**
- Betty Trusner**

- Dennis Yellina**
- Marilyn Thoreson**
- Fran Heuton**
- Irma Mishler**
- Chuck Dolejs**
- Ron Barr**
- Natalie Lane**

Our prayers of celebration and congratulations are with Bonnie Megenity and Don Walker who were married September 2.

May God bless your life together.

Our prayers of comfort are with Barb Campbell and her family as her mother, Mary Schlosser, entered eternal life September 10.

Our prayers of comfort are with Esther Gregg at the passing of Lee Gregg on September 14.

We give thanks to God for our newest members, Jim and Molly Hegenbarth, who have transferred their membership to us. Wel-

come!

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 the comfort of 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 October birthdays:

- Walter Clive 10/1
- Carrie McCoy 10/2
- Elaine Thoms 10/4
- Craig Warren 10/7
- Don Walker 10/10
- Cherie Glaab 10/11
- Becky Henault 10/14
- Severin Johnson 10/16
- Catherine Pittman 10/16
- Arlys Johnson 10/17
- Mary Winn 10/19
- Brent Haire 10/20
- Ken Steward 10/23
- Alex Maas 10/25
- Michael Holaday 10/28
- Linda Romine 10/28
- Cathie Wheat 10/28
- Bob Lane 10/29
- Jason Wodward 10/29

We celebrate with these couples having October anniversaries:

- Barb & Sonny Brewster 10/26
- Cathie & Jim Wheat 10/28

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



Thanks to all for your concerns and prayers for my mother, Fran Heuton. she is much better and walking well now.

*Thanks again,
Terri and Rick Barr*



My heartfelt thanks to all who offered prayers, sent cards, phoned and visited during my recent illness.

God bless,
Barb Morris-Nix

Have you had a chance to say hello to Mai, Erik and Karol? These young people are living with the Rifles and the Barrs as exchange students. We welcome them as part of our Faith family!

WELCA NOTES

“Hope in God in Times of Suffering”

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 how Christians deal with suffering.

October Meeting Schedule:

Sunshine Circle will meet **Wednesday, October 11**, at 10:00 am

Wheadon Friendship Circle meets at 7 pm **Tuesday, October 17**, at church.

Upcoming Dates:

Joint Quarterly Meeting and Cookie Exchange
Saturday, Dec. 2, 10 am
at Carrie McCoy's

Loaves and Fishes Serving Dates:

Saturday, December 9

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

Women ^{of the} ELCA

The joint WELCA quarterly meeting was held on Saturday, September 9th. There was a brief business meeting followed by a guest speaker. Please take time to read the minutes of the quarterly meeting in case you were unable to attend.

We would like to thank Mark Porter from the Center of Lay Ministries for taking his time to talk to the group. He provided us with a great deal of information about CLM and the services they provide our community. Not only do they have a food pantry, but they also have a food delivery system that delivers grocery items twice a month to homebound, low-income persons. The center also cooks and serves meals on Wednesdays and Fridays at the Boys and Girls Club as part of the Kids Café Program. If you are interested in volunteering with CLM, you can contact Mark Porter at 282-0063. CLM is currently in need of deodorant, toothpaste, toothbrushes, and shampoo. They also cannot keep corn and green beans on their shelves. Please

keep in mind that the center cannot repackage food. Please buy items, such as hot dogs or bologna, in smaller quantities and not the bulk packages.

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 meal on Saturday afternoons. WELCA would like to thank the youth group and their families for serving the meal on Saturday, September 16th. 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 their hard work. There is only one date remaining for the year. If you have not yet volunteered and would like the opportunity to serve, please keep Saturday, December 9 in mind.

There will be a craft fair at Christ Lutheran Church in Louisville, Kentucky on Saturday, October 21st. If

CARRIE MCCOY

you are interested in going, please contact Donna Baugh for more information.

Both circles will continue using the Bible study found in Lutheran Woman Today magazine titled *Hope in God in Times of Suffering*. 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.

Thank you to all the volunteers for altar guild. The list for the remainder of the year is full!

WELCA Quarterly Meeting Minutes

September 9th, 2006

Attending: Donna Baugh, Edie Maas, Barb Nix, Vivian Smith, Greta Gilberts, Marsha Woods, Carrie McCoy, Peg Gernand, Kristine Young, Sue Neathamers, Beth Landis

Secretary's Report

- ◆ Discussion – Reviewed previous minutes
- ◆ Motion to accept minutes by Marsha Woods, 2nd by Barb Nix, motioned approved.

Treasurer's Report

- ◆ Discussion – Report handed out by Beth Landis stated current balance of \$1113.30. In May we purchased a communion set and candles for \$146.43. Thank Offering for March and June Quarterly Meetings totaled \$64.45. Regular Offering is current with the synod.
- ◆ \$200.00 in Meijer gift cards for the Center for Women and Families was approved at the June Quarterly meeting and will need to be purchased
- ◆ Motion to accept report pending audit by Kristine Young, 2nd by Marsha Woods, motioned approved.

Report on Projects

- ◆ Center for Women and Families – As approved at June meeting, \$200 in Meijer gift cards will be purchased and delivered to the center
- ◆ Loaves and Fishes– The youth are working the September date. One date remaining this year, December 9th
- ◆ Altar Guild – We are currently doing well regarding supplies. Sign up sheet was passed in an effort to fill the month of November, it was filled. Sign-ups for 2007 will take place at December quarterly meeting.
- ◆ College Student Packages – Beth reported last year the package arrived too late in the year. Discussion on sending them earlier in the semester, perhaps January. Discussed need for ongoing communication with this age group and whether that would be more effective than just one package per year. Discussed committee to check in to on-going outreach to college students/young adults. Kristine Young volunteered to head this effort; Carrie McCoy stated she would assist. Marsha suggested trying to involve Pastor John because he had some good ideas.
- ◆ CLM – Discussion on how WELCA could support CLM. WELCA could sponsor several Christmas baskets and possibly get names of children for the angel tree. Marsha Woods made a motion to commit \$300 toward the Christmas baskets, Vivian Smith 2nd, motion approved. Kristine Young volunteered to coordinate angel tree effort with Sue Neathamers.
- ◆ Other Discussion– Barb Nix brought to the groups suggested that WELCA provide funds to the OWLS for nametags. Discussion was tabled until we can get more information for the OWLS. Barb will let the OWLS know we are willing to help them by providing some funds toward purchasing permanent nametags. There was also discussion regarding purchasing some new chairs for the fellowship hall (\$20 each at Sam's). There is also a need for funding the Consecration Sunday celebration meal, they are about \$200 short of what they need to supply the meal

Report on Bible study meetings

- ◆ Sunshine Circle – They will resume meeting on Wednesday, September 13th. Donna Baugh invited ladies to attend craft fair at Christ Luther Church on Saturday, October 21st.
- ◆ Wheadon Friendship Circle – Next meeting, Tuesday, September 19th.

Topic and Date for next meeting: Saturday, December 2nd at Carrie McCoy's house. Annual Christmas cookie exchange
Marsha Woods motioned to adjourn, Beth Landis 2nd, motion approved.

WEEKDAY CHURCH SCHOOL

CAROL TAYLOR

Classes resumed on Tues. Sept. 12th. Three children from the pre-K class were accepted into the pre-school program at Riverside Elementary. When they left our program this enabled us to take three children from the waiting list. We have also taken three names from the first year list. The two first year classes stand with 14 in each class and the Pre-K class has 28 children.

The younger children will be learning colors, learning to be away from their parents for a short time, and learning that God loves them. All of the classes will be learning

about God's gifts for fall, changing colors, trees going to sleep for the winter, and cooler days and nights. They will learn that all of these changes are planned by the God who loves them and gives them everything they need. The big Pre-K's will make apple sauce by chopping up the apples themselves and the running them through a food mill. Apple sauce will never taste this good again! They will learn that God plans for this food to continue to be available to us by putting seeds in pumpkins, apples, and many vegetables like beans, corn and peas.

God loves us so much He makes sure we have all we need to live.

All classes will have Halloween parties in their classroom. We encourage the children to wear costumes, but please, NO masks. They scare each other when they are masked. Halloween will be celebrated on Oct. 31.

The weekday children are also invited to the Halloween party on Fri. evening Oct. 27th, from 7 to 8 pm. This party is given by the youth of Faith. They plan and supervise the games and provide the snacks. Just to put your minds at ease, yes,



there also are adults present during this party. As the time gets closer, there will be a notice for you to sign indicating that your child plans to attend this party. We ask you to sign up so that we can plan for the correct amount of food and prizes. There will be prizes for costumes at this party, so be sure to wear a costume.

Halloween Costume Party

Friday, October 27

7-8 pm

Hosted by Faith Youth Group

For children 3 years to 5th grade

Schedule for Youth Hosts:

- 6:30 Youth meet to prepare for parties
- 7:00 - 8:00 Youth host party
- 8:00 -8:30 clean up
- 9:00 go bowling in New Albany
- 11:00 app. return to church for youth lock in
- 7:30 am Parent pick up youth.

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.

If you have questions, especially with Kroger, see Edie Maas

It can really help!



LIBRARY NEWS

NANCY THOMPSON

All of the materials listed below are gifts from Pastor Joyce Gerwing. Many thanks to Pastor Gerwing and to all the people who give generously to our library.

CHILDREN'S BOOKS

THE GIVING TREE, BY SHEL SILVERSTEIN

ANGELS & ALL CHILDREN. A NATIVITY STORY IN WORDS, MUSIC, AND ART, BY WALTER WANGERIN, JR.

ALABASTER'S SONG. CHRISTMAS THROUGH THE EYES OF AN ANGEL, BY MAX LUCADO.

JACOB'S GIFT, BY MAX LUCADO.

THE CRIPPLED LAMB, BY MAX LUCADO.

HERMIE AND THE BIG BULLY CROAKER, BY MAX LUCADO.

ROCK, ROLL, AND RUN, BY MAX LUCADO.

THE CATERPILLARS OF HA-HA, BY MAX LUCADO.

CHILDREN'S VIDEOS

WEBSTER, THE SCAREDY SPIDER. IT'S ABOUT BEING BRAVE.

JAY JAY, THE JET PLANE. LEARNING TO TRUST.

ADULT BOOKS

MAKING OUR MARRIAGE LAST A LIFETIME, BY AAL.

A TIME TO MOURN, A TIME TO DANCE. HELP FOR THE LOSSES IN LIFE, BY AAL

GOOD GRIEF, BY GRANGER WESTBERG.

JESUS' LITTLE INSTRUCTION BOOK. HIS WORDS TO YOUR HEART, COMPILED BY THOMAS CAHILL.

INVITE! IGNITE! UNITE! RECRUITING, TRAINING AND MOBILIZING VOLUNTEERS FOR MINISTRY, BY LUTHERAN BROTHERHOOD.

THE USE OF THE MEANS OF GRACE. A

STATEMENT ON THE PRACTICE OF WORD AND SACRAMENT. ADOPTED FOR GUIDANCE AND PRACTICE, BY ELCA.

GOD CAME NEAR, BY MAX LUCADO

THE BOOK OF MARK: THE STORY OF JESUS. A STUDYGUIDE IN SIMPLIFIED ENGLISH, BY SHARI PLUEDDEMANN MAXWELL

A PRAYERBOOK FOR SPIRITUAL FRIENDS: PARTNERS IN PRAYER, BY MADELEINE L'ENGLE AND LUCI SHAW

GLIMPSES OF GRACE: DAILY THOUGHTS AND REFLECTIONS, BY MADELEINE L'ENGLE.

ADULT VIDEO

THE TEN COMMANDMENTS. HOSTED BY WALTER WANGERIN, JR.



CHOICES

I've been asked to share the message I gave August 27:

Let's think today about choices. Take a moment and consider the choices you've already made today... You chose what time to get up, what, if anything, to have for breakfast, what to wear, and you chose to come to church. And it's early! There are still many choices yet to be made today. Life is full of choices, isn't it? Some choices are easy, others take a lot more thought and consideration. We choose where we go to school, our careers, who we marry, who we hang out with, where we live, what we eat. We choose what we believe, where we worship, WHETHER we worship. We take even the fact that we *have* choices for granted. We're blessed to HAVE choices, and yet the tough part of having choices is that they bring with them accountability. The news is full of reports of people who have made the wrong choice somewhere along the way and the affect it has on the rest of their lives and on the lives of other people. Choices are powerful triggers of emotion. Close your eyes and remember the last time you made a major choice that you felt really good about....smiles all around!

In today's first lesson, Joshua said to the tribes of Israel, "...choose this day whom you will serve..." and, of course, they chose cor-

rectly...they chose the Lord. There isn't any information about whether or not they had to call a meeting to discuss it, or whether it was decided by committee. That it was their choice is all we really know. It's the choice we make, too.

Okay, be honest. How many of us have ever been lying in bed on a Sunday morning struggling with whether or not to get up to come to church? Imagine, like in the cartoons, a little devil telling you in one ear how nice it would be to just relax and stay at home. And there's a little voice on the other side of you urging you to "get up", knowing it's the right thing to do. Is it your mom's voice in your ear? Or Jiminy Cricket's?

How do you handle the choices in your life? Are you one who considers and mulls over the options before choosing? Or are you more of a "seat of your pants", snap decision maker? Or maybe there's a combination of both. Some choices are easier than others. Have you ever been set on a path, only to find yourself questioning that choice at some point and wondering if you should be making a different choice? Do you think that might be a coincidence? Do you believe in coincidence or do you think it could be God whispering to you the direction He wants you to go?

Do you implement the method used by Benjamin Franklin, of drawing a line down the middle of a page and putting the "pros" on one side and the "cons" on another? I usually use that one when I'm trying to justify NOT doing something I know I should do. The pros inevitably outweigh the cons, however. Coincidence?

In today's Gospel, the disciples had choices. They could choose to accept or not to accept Jesus' teachings. Jesus appears to have been pretty frank in his discussion with them about what was going on. Jesus knew they were in for some tough times and He was asking them to fish or cut bait. Jesus asked them if they wanted to go away. He was looking for a commitment from them, a confirmation that they believed who he was and what his role was in the overall scheme of things.

Similar choices are available to us today. We can choose how we follow Christ's teachings. We can even choose what we know of his teachings by how much we study them. We can choose to ignore the homeless and less fortunate or we can choose to help them. We can choose to reach out to our community and beyond and share our resources, or we can choose to bundle ourselves behind these walls. We can choose to reach out to welcome people

MARSHA WOODS

to worship with us, or we can choose not to. We must remember, however, that others have choices, too. Some will enjoy our traditional worship services; others will choose to worship somewhere more lively and "entertaining". Will *you* choose to compromise in order to see our church grow and to reach a more diverse demographic? Well, that's another topic for another day...

Here's an interesting tidbit I ran across while I was working on today's message. A gentleman named John Indermark observes that in a recent survey, more people checked 'none' in the column which asked church affiliation than before. He explains, and I'm paraphrasing here, that he believes that more people than a few opt for 'none' based on their perspective that religion is irrelevant in contemporary life. He writes, "To be honest, the church has sometimes given ample justification to that choice. Folks come looking for spiritual guidance or holy encounter, and walk in on us squabbling over who gets to use the fellowship hall for free and who has to pay. Others come seeking new ways and partners for serving God through serving others, only to find us refusing to budge from comfortable pews and unwilling to risk reserve funds. Some come in search of a place to

Continued next page

CHOICES (CONTINUED)

About 55 people joined together for Family Fun Night September 9. After a delicious meal of brats, dogs and pitch in dishes, the group gathered around a campfire to sing hymns and share vespers.

belong and hear endless debates on who doesn't belong.

"None' can become an understandable choice. Until it comes time for a child to be married. Until it comes time for a loved one to be buried. Weddings typically are not performed by 'none'. Funerals are rarely officiated or hosted by 'none.' In times of passage and crisis, Peter's response to Jesus in our text from John becomes a lively question, 'to whom can we go?' Look around you this morning – and not just at the peculiar furniture and windows that makes this place different from your living room or the Elks Lodge. Look around at the memories embedded here of those who have come in hope of finding sanctuary. Perhaps, at some time or another, it was you.

Perhaps it was even while your checkmark was still in the 'none' box."

It has been two years since Pastor Vogler chose to move on. We had choices then, too. Some chose to leave. Some chose to stay away until we had a new pastor. Most, I'm happy to say, chose the opportunity to reflect, reinvigorate, renew and re-commit ourselves to our mission. We chose to define our values, our goals and our mission, and now we choose to work to fulfill that mission. We discovered gifts among ourselves that we never knew we had or realized were needed for our mission! And we chose to use them! We choose to move forward and to build a vital line of communication to those who don't know about God's

word. It takes a lot of work. It doesn't happen passively. The reason (or excuse) I hear the most often when someone doesn't want to participate in something, is "I don't have the time"...come on, *you don't have the time for God?* Sure you do. What would you do if He didn't have the time for *you!* God gave you gifts, and in my view, gifts from God should not be taken lightly. What are your gifts? Do you sing? Do you teach? Are you good at comforting those who are lonely or ill or incapacitated? I know you have gifts...more importantly, GOD knows you have gifts. He gave them to you! The question is, do you choose to USE them? How would you answer Jesus if he walked up to you today and said, "Do you also wish to go away?"

**October CLM
Focus:
Green beans and
corn**

CLM

Food Pantry

The food pantry at CLM continues to be a very busy place. It distributes over 200,000 pounds of food in a year's time.

They can use toothpaste and deodorant, and are in constant need of canned vegetables. Beth and I have decided to designate canned green beans and corn for the month of October. Please bring your canned vegetables this

month and put them in the CLM Basket.

Christmas Baskets

Christmas Basket sign up's will begin the end of October. Last year we had 594 family units in Clark County that signed up. CLM filled and distributed 290 baskets of food. The rest were done by area churches, businesses, and organizations. Thanks to WELCA, who decided at

SUE NEATHAMER

their September meeting to donate \$300 toward Christmas Baskets, which should help six families. Faith's generosity is always appreciated by CLM and the families served by this ministry.

CHRISTIAN EDUCATION

Sunday school started the fall term on Sunday, September 10th. Some classes had a great attendance and others still need the commitment of the parents' promises that were made when the children were baptized. Do you remember? To bring them to God's house, place in their hands the scriptures, and provide for their education means that you promised to help them learn to know and to love God their creator and provider. The Sunday School program has been created to help you, the parent, keep this promise that you made to God for your child at his/her baptism.

There was one child in the beginners class, ages 3yrs. through kindergarten.

There were 5 in Michelle's class following the children's sermon. There is a potential for 13 children in this age group. The primary class, ages 1st grade through 4th grade, also only had one child in this group. However, there is a potential for 13 to 15 children in this age group. The two children who came thoroughly enjoyed themselves. The teachers were prepared with materials geared to the respective age levels. Please try us. Your child might enjoy it.

The 5th through 7th grade class had 9 youth present. There is a potential for 14 in this class. Mr. "T" had 6 youth. This was enough for a good discussion, but just for your information, 17 youth went to Kart

Kountry after church that day. Hmmmmm....

Pastor 's Revelations Class had 21 people in attendance. This is really GREAT! There are several more weeks for this class and then the class will decide the next topic to be discussed. Lyle Gernand is ready to resume the No Experience Necessary curriculum if this is what the group decided to do.

Have you noticed the time line that is growing in the hall going back to the kitchen? All of our classes (except Pastor's) are studying the Old Testament stories. Each class will add a block to the time line each week explaining what they have been discussing. This will

CAROL TAYLOR

help all of us get a better view of our heritage and history. Wander down the hall, take a peek, and help yourself to a bit of history.

WE HOPE TO SEE YOU AND YOUR CHILDREN IN SUNDAY SCHOOL!

STOP THE PRESSES!

On the second Sunday of SCS, attendance rose:

3 in 3 through Kind.

2 in 1st—4th grades (new ones)

9 in Carol's (some new ones)

6 in Mr. T's

This increase is GREAT news!

THRIVENT MAKES GIVING SIMPLE

If you're one of those people who find it easier to have your monthly payments automatically deducted from your checking or savings account, you're in for a treat! Thrivent's *Simply Giving* program allows EFT (Electronic Funds Transfer) of your financial gifts to Faith Lutheran! You don't have to be a member of Thrivent to participate. You have

complete control over the amount, the frequency and the date(s) your pre-authorized withdrawal is transferred to Faith's account.

The *Simply Giving* program is a reliable, safe way to share your gifts through planned giving and activates your generosity into ongoing stewardship. Because your gift is given consistently, you won't

need to play "catch-up" at year end or worry about forgotten checkbooks or missed Sunday offerings. Your congregation benefits from a steady, more predictable revenue stream throughout the year, more efficient bookkeeping and greater confidence in meeting our financial commitments

Faith is given a report of each donation and it will

be tracked on our computer system just as it is now.

There is no charge to participate for either members or Faith Lutheran. This service is being offered as an option and a convenience to our members.

For more details, or to enroll, please contact Peg Gernand.

PRESIDENT'S LETTER

One of the things I both enjoy and dread most about my work is the driving. It's a double-edged sword, and there are days that I absolutely do NOT want to get in the car and drive 6-8 hours, but it goes, quite literally, with the territory. This time of year, however, is particularly pleasant, as I enjoy the progression of fall color and reflect on how blessed we are to live in such a colorful, ever changing world. I can never resist humming the song, "Turn, Turn, Turn" as I'm driving down the road. I'm sure if I lived elsewhere, I'd miss the changing seasons.

As the calendar year begins to wind down, the church calendar and activity for end of year revs up!

Weekday Church School has begun its fall semester and the halls are filled with excited little (and big) ones learning new and exciting things about God and the world we live in. What a blessing this ministry is! Staffed completely by volunteers, this amazing and dedicated group of individuals are committed to bringing God's word to our future generation. It's fun to watch the children grow and enjoy new experiences!

Sunday Church School has begun as well, and we are hoping for more excitement and energy on Sunday mornings as we expand and share the knowledge we have of our Christian faith.

The new Wednesday learning experience, Akaloo, began with 7 individuals. I'm sure it will take hold, and it promises to be a fun, interactive program that can be accessed via internet from home as well as during Wednesday evenings at church.

The OWLS are busy birds (sorry, I couldn't resist), both with social and service activities. I'm sure they would welcome more participation in both areas!

WELCA is re-energizing its Bible studies with a new focus. There are two opportunities a month to share these studies. Please see the WELCA article and minutes in this newsletter for more information on their current mission projects.

There is a lot to accomplish before the annual congregation meeting in January. Again this year, as you will have read elsewhere in this newsletter, we will participate in the "Consecration Sunday" stewardship pro-

gram. Last year's campaign was hugely successful, and the feedback we received was most positive. Many of you indicated that you enjoyed the positive nature of the message of the program. Instead of being asked to give based on the budget, each of us is asked to reflect and base our gifts as thanks for the many blessings we receive.

Thanks to Peg Gernand for guiding this year's effort and to Scott Rife and Tami Czerwonka for stepping up to help her and chair the sub-committees.

Once the stewardship campaign has been completed, Council will prepare the 2007 budget for your adoption at a meeting in December of this year.

The call process is continuing, but obviously can take some time. The Call Committee has received another name from Synod and is awaiting paperwork on the next candidate available to interview. Thanks to those committee members who persevere on our behalf!

You will find with this newsletter the revised By-laws for your review. We will act to adopt these By-laws at the annual meeting in January.

MARSHA WOODS

You'll see a nomination box in the narthex for new council members beginning in November. Remember, we will be replacing 5 members next year. Look around and see who you think will be good leaders to join the remaining council members to continue leading our mission. And while you're looking at potential members, don't forget to look in the mirror!

We haven't had a church directory published for a couple of years, and were planning to wait until our new pastor is chosen to do the pictorial directory. In the interim, however, we will create a mini-directory to reflect new addresses and changes to our membership. We hope to have those out by the first of the year.

What about the nametags? Do you like them? Hate them? I've heard mixed reviews, but most don't seem to mind, and appreciate getting to know each other better.

And so the seasons continue. Isn't it amazing how we come to expect certain changes?

God's peace.



NEWSLETTER

OCTOBER
2006

SERVING AT FAITH WORSHIP SERVICES FOR THE MONTH OF OCTOBER

USHERS:

ALTAR GUILD: VIVIAN SMITH AND BARB MORRIS-NIX

FINANCIAL ASSISTANT: SCOTT WYKOFF

WEEKLY ASSISTANTS:

<u>SUN.</u>	<u>ASSISTANT</u>	<u>ACOLYTE</u>	<u>CRUCIFER</u>	<u>NURSERY</u>	<u>SOCIAL</u>	<u>GREETERS</u>
1	Lyle Gernand	Stephen Fox	Jordan Emily	Bev Haire	?	?
8	Bill Holman	Tyler Landis	Katie Rife	Landis	?	Mitchell
15	Veronica Rife	Jordan Searcy	Joshua Landis	?	?	Klemens
22	Dick Klemens	Kristina Peter	Justin Wykoff	?	?	?
29	Marsha Woods	Will Czerwonka	Kyle Czerwonka	Nancy Arbuckle	N/A	Smiths

As you can see, we are in need of volunteers to sign up for nursery, social and greeters.