



THE FAITHFUL NEWS

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

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

JANUARY, 2007



PJ'S JOTS

PASTOR JOHN HAWKINS

Happy New Year!!!! ... Does it seem possible that 2007 is upon us already? I know it doesn't to me. It just seems like yesterday I was wishing my friends: Happy New Year! for 2006. One of the things I like about a new year is the opportunity to look forward. I could spent time reflecting on 2006 but then I would be lost in the past and not the future. I always make the same New Years Resolution every year. And no it is not to lose weight!!! Although, I know I could stand to do so!

No my resolution is as follows: I resolve to do my best to not make the same mistakes in the new year, exactly the same way I made them last year!

Now you may wonder just what does that mean. Well let me try to explain it. Every year I make mistakes. Some are small ones and some are doozies. As a matter of fact we all do that. There are those things that we just want to forget ever happened but we know we won't for some time. I don't know how many times I have heard the statement: "I will be glad when this year is over, next year has to be better!"

Have you ever said that? Well I know I have! The only way I know to make the next year better is to not make the same mistakes in the same way as I did the year before. And to seek forgiveness from any I many have wronged, from God, and from myself. In a way, my resolution gives me a clean pallet to paint on for this new year of my life. But you know I really don't have to wait for a new year for that.

Every time I confess my sins to God and my neighbor, I am given that clean pallet to paint a picture of my life on for others to see. Paul says: "since all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God" (Romans 3:23); I need forgiveness from God and others every day, we all do. I also know that when I confess my sins, God forgives my sins and in that I know each day will be the best day that I will make it.

FINANCE MATTERS

PEG GERNAND



Christmas is one of my most favorite times of the year. This year I found myself struggling to find enough time to get all the things done so that I would be ready to travel to Denver to spend the Christmas holidays with our daughter and her two little ones. Usually I have figured out the “perfect” gift for everyone on my list before Thanksgiving and this year time got away from me and I struggled to find answers for the “perfect” gift for everyone on my list. In looking back, I found that my motives weren’t what they should have been!

Whatever your motives are

for buying gifts; courtesy, duty or tradition, all of these reasons fall short of the “because I want to” motive.

The Bible makes it clear that Christ’s motive for giving Himself to and for us was that we “might become rich.” The gift has been given—verified in history, recorded clearly by all the Gospel writers, and experienced by multitudes of believers. God gave His Son, who willingly gave Himself for us. His motive: that we might become rich—rich in faith, rich in Christ, rich in hope, rich in eternal life, and rich in love.

There is only one explana-

tion for such giving: grace, unearned and undeserved love of God for us. What a gift!

This will be my last article in the Newsletter concerning financial matters at Faith Lutheran Church. My term on Church Council will be finished at the annual meeting and someone else will assume the responsibility of reporting to you about the financial condition of our church. I have enjoyed the last two years working to computerize our contribution records and reports. Thank you for the opportunity to serve in this capacity.

Speaking of Stewardship...

It’s not just money; it’s service, too. We have council seats to fill. Will you actively support your church through leadership?

The nomination box will remain up through January 7.

Finance Recap Year to Date November 30, 2006

| | |
|-------------------------------------|-------------------|
| Receipts (less designated) | \$159,255.75 |
| Income required to meet budget | <u>164,880.00</u> |
| Total year to date income to budget | (5,624.25) |
| Interest from CD | <u>1,198.00</u> |
| Total above (below) budget | (\$ 4,426.75) |

CALL COMMITTEE UPDATE

DICK KLEMENS

After interviewing the third candidate for our pastoral vacancy, the Call Committee unanimously voted to recommend this candidate to the Church Council. This recommendation was made on Sunday, December 10.

The call process continues through the following steps:

The council schedules an interview with the candidate and decides if they want to present this candidate to the congregation.

The council schedules a social event in conjunction with a service conducted by the candidate. The members of the congregation will have an opportunity to

meet with and listen to the candidate conduct a service.

The congregation will be asked to vote on the acceptance of the candidate at a specially called congregational meeting.

YOUTH NEWS

SARAH RIFE

The youth had a great time helping support CLM's angel tree project. Thanks to Thrivent for the \$225 they donated toward this project. We will raise the rest through t-shirt sales.

January 6th the youth will be traveling up to Perfect North, and will be tubing. The cost is \$23 for two hours, or \$15 if we have more than 15 people attend. We will be looking

for people to help drive up and we will be leaving the church at 9:00a.m.

This year the youth was asked by the Baughs to help serve and fix dinner for an Air National Guard banquet to be held at our church on January 20th. We will need all youth to help set up and cook this day.

Getting to Know Your Youth

Brittany and Jordan Searcy are the children of Kris and Roy Searcy. Both Brittany and Jordan were born in Little Rock, Arkansas. Brittany's favorite sport is soccer, and her favorite food is lasagna. She currently serves as treasurer for the youth group.

Jordan's favorite sport is

football, and his favorite food is pizza. Both Brittany and Jordan enjoy the youth group and the youth events here at church.

OWLS (OLDER WISER LUTHERAN SOCIETY) NANCY FALKENSTEIN

More than twenty of our OWLS put on our fine feathers for a night out in December. We enjoyed dinner at Big Hopps Restaurant in Louisville, then enjoyed a tour of the Scottish Rite Temple by our own Jim Vogt, and an organ recital. We had a great time!

In December a number of our shut-ins were visited, and cookies, which were provided by WELCA, were delivered to several of these folks.

Our stained glass project is really showing results! Several of us met to view stained glass window hangings which had belonged to Incarnation Lutheran Church and were being stored at First Lu-

theran Church, in Louisville. Thanks to the work of Betty Condra, the Synod agreed to let us have the hangings. They are being stored in our church. Elaine Thoms, who is quite proficient in stained glass work, has agreed to help restore these hangings. She is currently working on them. Sometime this winter, when she gives us the word, we are going to have a "putty party" to reputty the hangings. Maybe this will turn into a "pizza putty party," as our OWLS find eating quite entertaining and find every OWL occasion one at which we enjoy food! At any rate, sometime in the next few months, if all goes well and the Council gives us their blessing, we will have eight

lovely stained glass hangings for the windows of our worship center. Our members who came to us from Incarnation will no doubt especially appreciate these hangings.

Nancy Vogt has kindly agreed to take over the visitation project this winter, so PLEASE see her on Sunday morning, January 7, to volunteer to see, write, or call members of our Faith family to extend our prayers and well wishes. You DO NOT have to be an OWL to volunteer! Really!

Two of us OWLS are turning into SnowBirds! By the time you read this article, Jim and I will be basking in sunny Florida for the winter. Come to visit us! See you in the spring!



PRAYER REQUESTS, CONCERNS AND CELEBRATIONS

We ask God's special healing for:

Dot Clerici
Betty Condra
Hallie Kusch
Patti Smith
Jim Vogt
Kay Winn
Roger Rice
Buck Beickman
Lisa Peter
Walter Clive
Dennis Yellina
Ron and Marilyn Thoreson
Chuck Dolejs

Ron Barr
Lu Wright
Bob Dietrich
Natalie Lane
Val Polk

Our prayers of comfort and condolence are with Cleon Trusner and his family as Betty entered eternal life December 2.

Our prayers of thanks and celebration join those of Jim and Molly Hegenbarth at the birth of their granddaughter, Elaina, in

Texas.

Our prayers for support and guidance continue for the call process as we continue the 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 January birthdays:

| | |
|-----------------|------|
| Marsha Woods | 1/4 |
| Matt McCoy | 1/5 |
| Karen Lane | 1/6 |
| Bill Winn | 1/7 |
| Josh Barr | 1/8 |
| Ed Peter | 1/8 |
| Janet Kaluga | 1/10 |
| Lindsey Landis | 1/15 |
| Kelly Cooke | 1/18 |
| Wendy Yellina | 1/18 |
| Todd Taylor | 1/19 |
| Kari Smith | 1/20 |
| Brandon Woehrle | 1/24 |
| Gordon McCall | 1/25 |
| Sandra Maas | 1/28 |
| Dot Clerici | 1/29 |
| Betty Condra | 1/31 |

We celebrate with these couples having January anniversaries:

| | |
|-------------------------|------|
| Dennis & Wendy Yellina | 1/24 |
| Edith & Ron Woodward | 1/26 |
| Nancy & Jim Falkenstein | 1/27 |

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



Congregation Annual Meeting

Sunday, January 21, 2007

Following worship and a Pitch In Lunch
 (Meat provided. Please bring a covered dish.)

Congratulations to Megan Holman,
 recent graduate of IUS!

We are still in need of individuals to serve on council for a two year term beginning in 2007. Please prayerfully consider this leadership opportunity.

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.

January Meeting Schedule:

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

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

Our next joint quarterly meeting will be held at 10 am on Saturday, March 10.



Thanks to all the ladies that attended the quarterly meeting in December. We had a wonderful brunch, made packages of cookies for Faith's sick and shut-in, and had a very productive business meeting. If you were not able to attend, please read the minutes of the meeting included in this newsletter.

WELCA would like to thank the congregation for their support of CLM during the holidays. With your help, WELCA was able to help provide Christmas baskets to six families in our community. The angels on the tree were names provided by CLM. Besides adopting all of those angels, you generously supported us through your donations during the service on December 3rd with donations of \$440, enabling us to buy for ten additional children. Thank you all for helping to make these families holidays a little brighter. Also, thank you to Beth Landis and Kristine Young for shopping for those additional ten angels and organizing the gifts and baskets..

Both circles will continue their Bible studies this month after taking a break in December. Currently both circles are using the Bible study found in Lu-

theran 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. There was some discussion about looking into a different Bible study, so if you know of a good Bible study, please bring it to our attention. As always, all ladies are welcome to join us. Please see the dates and the times to the left.

WELCA will continue to support the Loaves and Fishes project in 2007. Thank you to all the volunteers that served last year. We would not be able to commit to this project without your help. We are very grateful and appreciative for your support of this worthwhile project. If you are interested in helping provide a meal for the hungry in our community, please keep the dates for 2007 in mind:

Saturday, February 24th
(youth project)
Saturday, May 19th
Saturday, August 4th
Saturday, October 20th

WELCA would like to thank those that have faithfully served during the past year. Thank you to all the ladies that have served on altar guild, prepared

CARRIE MCCOY

Lenten dinners, supported projects, and attended meetings and Bible studies. Thanks to Beth Landis for serving as treasurer and agreeing to continue serving as our treasurer for the upcoming year. Thanks to our outgoing leadership, co-leaders Peg Gernand and Carrie McCoy, and to our new co-leaders, Patti Smith and Donna Baugh. We are grateful for all the support and volunteers that have helped us have such a blessed year. We look forward to 2007!

WEEKDAY CHURCH SCHOOL

CAROL TAYLOR



Weekday children enjoyed the Birthday party for Jesus on December 19th. This was the last day of school for them until school resumes on Jan. 4th.

When we return, all three classes will be learning how baby Jesus grew from a little baby into a boy their age, then a teenager, and then became an adult. They will hear the stories of his getting his name in the temple, getting lost as a twelve year old, and how he helped others as an adult.

The Pre-K's will be learning what life was like in Bible times. No running water, no cars, they sat and ate on the floor, they slept on the roof of their house. They will hear five different Bible stories to begin their knowledge of the Bible. For some of the children this is the first and may be the only time they will hear the story of Mary and Martha, Rhoda, Jesus and the fishermen, and Jesus healing the man's daughter. Our pre-school not only provides academic education, but it is also the only source

some of these families have to the Christian stories and beliefs. We thank each and every one who volunteers in this effort. Without your help we would not be able to offer this program.

We want to give an especially big thank you to Peg Gernand for her years of teaching the littlest of our children. Her job now requires she work each and every day and she is reluctantly turning her class over to Debbie Lake. Thank you a million for all your help and devotion to this program and God's blessings to you as you go about finishing your college degree at the same time you are working full time.

Debbie Lake is a mother of three of the children who have been in the WCS program. The first year her boys were in Peg's class she did substitute work in that class. Then she came on full time and worked with the pre-k program for 2 years, running to pick the boys up from kindergarten and coming back to finish the morning with

us. This past year she has been back in Peg's class getting ready to make the transition to lead teacher. Her daughter Jenna is in the Pre-K class this year. Debbie loves teaching and plans to continue with us even when Jenna is in kindergarten next year. Welcome aboard Debbie Lake, thanks for your past help and God be with you as you take on this leadership position.

**Please note this
new phone number
to reach Council
President Marsha
Woods
502-645-4725**

LIBRARY NEWS

Most of our newest additions have been donated by members of our congregation. We have Patti Smith, Barbara Brewster, Barbara Morris-Nix, Isaiah Young and Isaac Ngoh to thank. Colleen Bates, a non-member, has also contributed. If I have missed your name, please let me know and I would be happy to include it in an upcoming newsletter. Many thanks go to all who contribute.

CHILDREN'S BOOKS

Squanto and the Miracle of Thanksgiving, by Eric Metaxas.

Click, Clack, Moo Cows That Type, by Doreen Cronin.

Duck for President, by Doreen Cronin.

Giggle, Giggle, Quack, by Doreen Cronin.

CHILDREN'S VIDEOS

VeggieTales. The Toy That Saved Christmas.

VeggieTales. King George and Ducky. A Lesson about Selfishness.

VeggieTales. Esther, The Girl Who the Became Queen. A Lesson in Courage.

ADULT NON-FICTION

Food and Faith: Justice, Joy and Daily Bread, compiled by Michael Schut.

Freedom From Fear: Overcoming Worry and Anxiety, by Neil Anderson & Rich Miller.

Facing Terror. The True Story of How an American Couple Paid the Ultimate Price for Their Love of the Muslim People, by Carrie McDonnell.

Seven From Heaven: the Miracle of the McCaughey Septuplets. A Story of Simple Faith and an Extraordinary Family, by Kenny McCaughey.

The Message: The New Testament, Psalms and Proverbs in Contemporary Language, by Eugene Peterson.

NANCY THOMPSON

ADULT FICTION

The Storekeeper's Daughter, by Wanda Brunstetter.

The Road to Home, by Vanessa Del Fabbro.

Sandpiper Drift, by Vanessa Del Fabbro.

Fame, by Karen Kingsbury.

Forgiven, by Karen Kingsbury.

Found, by Karen Kingsbury.

The Christmas Candle, by Max Lucado.

The Christmas Basket, by Debbie Macomber.

Dawn in my Heart, by Ruth Axtell Morren.

Once Upon a Christmas, by Lauraine Snelling & Lenora Worth.

Leaves of Hope, by Catherine Palmer.

A New Day Rising, by Lauraine Snelling.

An Untamed Land, by Lauraine Snelling



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!



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.

CLM

SUE NEATHAMER

A Big Thank You to Faith members for their generous support of the CLM Christmas Basket Project. It started with WELCA and the Youth Group taking six CLM families. An additional 20 CLM Angels were put on the Faith Angel Tree after it became known that several CLM Angels were still left. WELCA asked the members of Faith for help with another 12 angels. During the children's sermon, Faith members gave an additional \$440 to help support the angels! A total of 42 CLM Angels were provided with toys and clothes from Faith. In addition to the six food baskets WELCA provided,

four overflowing grocery carts of food from Faith was taken to CLM .

Once again I thank you for your outstanding response to this need in the community. Thanks, too, to Beth Landis for her outstanding efforts in coordinating, shopping, and delivering the items to CLM.

CLM had a total of 561 family units applied for help this Christmas.

Local churches, businesses, and organizations took 342 of these families.

CLM provided food baskets to the remaining 219 fami-

lies. CLM also provided this holiday basket to clients that came in for food assistance the week of December 18th.



Thanks to Faith members for their generosity to CLM during the holidays and throughout the year!

CHRISTIAN EDUCATION

CAROL TAYLOR

Sunday School Matters

The Middle and High school classes have grown in size during this fall term. Students in both classes have been bringing friends and the class size has grown to 9 or 10 in the high school class and the middle school class has had 11 on several occasions. This has made it much more fun to be in larger groups of youth and definitely more fun to teach when there is more exchange of ideas. Keep up the good work in bringing your friends!

The adult class has settled at around 15-20 people each week. This has made for some lively discussions using the material No Experience Necessary. These discussions center around living life as a Christian in today's world. There's always room for more and they would love to have you come and join in the discussion. They are discussing some ways to be of service to our church and the surrounding community.

The same old problem is still plaguing the elementary and pre school classes. There are several who

come once in a while but never seem to hit on the same Sun. Starting January 7th these classes will be starting the second term material. If you haven't had your child in Sunday School this fall, this is a good time to start. New material and a new year make for great beginnings. Mom and Dad can bring the younger ones and keep the family together by attending the adult class.

Church council has empowered the Christian education committee to hire a baby sitter who will be available from 9:00 to 12:00 noon each Sunday. We hope to have someone in place by the first Sunday in February. This will be a paid position. See the notice of this position in another part of this newsletter. The individual will be screened and complete a background check.

Vacation Bible School

The vacation Bible School writing committee met December 6th. We decided to call this year's program GOD'S WATER WONDERS. We hope to help the children learn to know God as our Creator and

Savior and to share his love. The following people have agreed to write/create various parts of this summer's program.

- Terri Barr (Art)
- Meredith Riekhof (Music)
- Barbara Brewster (Science)
- Nancy and Jim Falkenstein (Snacks)
- Joshua Emily (Recreation)

- Carol Taylor and Charlotte Davis (Pre School)
- Arlys Johnson (1st and 2nd grade)
- Virginia Klemens (3rd and 4th grade)
- Nancy Falkenstein (5th and 6th grade)

This summer's stories will include :

- The creation story
- Calming the Storm
- Jonah and the Whale
- Noah
- Calling the Fishermen

The next meeting for this committee will be on February 7th. Anyone interested in trying his hand at helping with this project is more than welcome to come on board. If anyone has any children's books with these materials in them at any age level, we would love to borrow them to help the writers. We promise to return them in the condition we received them.

HELP WANTED

If you know a person to recommend to staff the nursery from 9-12 Sunday mornings, please give their name to or have them contact Pastor, Carol Taylor, or Arlys Johnson.

This paid position will require a background check. The Christian Education committee will interview and screen the individual and recommend them to council.

PRESIDENT'S LETTER

MARSHA WOODS

Happy New Year! As we move into the Christmas season and the 2007 calendar year we continue to have much to be thankful for as a family of faith.

God's hand was with us during Advent, allowing us to do His work in our community by reaching out to those in need. With our members' help and that of Thrivent, WELCA sponsored 6 families from the Center for Lay Ministries and a total of 42 children with food and gifts of toys and clothing. We have always been a congregation that responds to a need made known and we proved that once again; I could hardly believe that \$440 was raised at the December 3 service just by letting you know of the need. Well done! Beth Landis worked particularly hard to coordinate, shop for and organize all the food baskets and angel gifts, along with Kristine Young and the youth. Thanks to all who helped make this community outreach so successful!

The Call Committee has recommended a candidate to council and we are in the process of scheduling an interview. The candidate has recently suffered a family tragedy which may af-

fect the timing and her course of action. We will keep you posted as we move through this discernment process. Thanks for your continued prayers.

The Adult Sunday School class is growing as is the high school class. They're growing by inviting people to join them! What a concept, huh? If your children balk at coming to Sunday School because the class is small and they want more interaction, emulate these classes and help them bring their friends!

If you haven't noticed, Arlys Johnson is a highly creative individual. No wonder she was such a great teacher! She thought it would liven up the annual cantata to include people portraying the characters of the stories told through music, recruited them, directed them, and she was right...it was a wonderful addition to this event. I heard marvelous reviews. Thanks to all those who participated as characters. Barb Brewster continues to be a blessing in so many ways, leading the choir and providing beautiful music each week that enhances our worship experience. All the individuals who sing in the choir give thanks for their musical gifts by dedi-

cating their time to rehearsing and learning new music.

Thanks to all who participated in the December 10 budget meeting. The budget for 2007 passed with the addition of funds to purchase new hymnals. There will be an opportunity to purchase hymnals in honor of or in memory of loved ones later in the year.

We are now preparing for the annual meeting to be held January 21, 2007. Following worship we will enjoy a lunch. Meat will be provided. Please bring a side dish of your choice. The annual reports will be ready for you to pick up January 14 so that you may read over the reports before the meeting. At the January 21 meeting we will adopt the proposed Bylaws that were included a few months ago for your review. These will also be in the annual report, so please take time to review them before the meeting and come prepared with your suggested alterations.

There were many names placed in the nomination box for prospective council members. Unfortunately, most have refused the nomination. As of this

writing, only 2 individuals have agreed to be on the ballot. We need at least 3 more to fill the vacancies and ideally even more from whom to choose. Is it time for you to rise to this challenge?

This will be my last "president's letter". I have been blessed to serve and have many, many people to thank for stepping up, especially over the past two years, to help build the momentum we needed to stay together during this interim period.

God clearly has a mission for us and has made it obvious to most of us that it is *our* responsibility to be good stewards of that mission. I think we've made a lot of progress, both in our internal structure and in our outreach. I'm confident that the new leadership will continue the momentum and help us remain focused on our mission. We cannot, however, sit back and be content with what we have done. We must reach out to families with young children, to find a way to bring them into service with us, to educate and engage them, while we care for each other in all walks of life. God bless.



JANUARY
2007

NEWSLETTER



SERVING AT FAITH WORSHIP SERVICES FOR THE MONTH OF JANUARY

USHERS: JIM AND MOLLY HEGENBARTH, MIKE WOEHRLE, GORDON McCALL

ALTAR GUILD: BETH LANDIS AND PATTI SMITH

FINANCIAL ASSISTANT: MARSHA WOODS

WEEKLY ASSISTANTS:

| <u>SUN.</u> | <u>ASSISTANT</u> | <u>ACOLYTE</u> | <u>CRUCIFER</u> | <u>NURSERY</u> | <u>SOCIAL</u> | <u>GREETERS</u> |
|-------------|------------------|----------------|-----------------|----------------|---------------|-----------------|
| 7 | PATTI SMITH | TARA MILLER | SARAH RIFE | ? | HAYES | HAYES |
| 14 | TOM HAYES | S. MCCOY | K. MCCOY | ? | LANDIS | LANDIS |
| 21 | LYLE GERNAND | T. LANDIS | J. LANDIS | ? | N/A | ? |
| 28 | CAROL TAYLOR | S. FOX | K. RIFE | ? | CZERWONKA | CZERWONKA |