



# THE FAITHFUL NEWS

Church Phone 812-282-6993

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

JANUARY, 2008

## WELCOME, PASTOR MEIER!

Pastor Scott Meier begins his ministry with us January 2, 2008. As we welcome him, we will use this opportunity to share a little background information.

Pastor Meier was ordained in 1996. His first career was as an accountant. He received his accounting degree from Miami University in 1974 and, later, his Masters in Divinity from the Lutheran Theological Southern Seminary in Columbia, South Carolina in 1996. His service with us will be his third call since becoming ordained. In addition to his full time pastoral duties, Pastor Meier has served as chaplain for a number of Via de Christo weekends.

Before deciding to attend seminary, Pastor Meier and his wife were active in their church as lay leaders. His wife, Laura, is also ordained and is currently serving an interim position in northern Indiana. He and Laura have two children: Rachel, 24, is attending seminary. Justin, 21, currently attends Ivy Tech studying music. Pastor Meier's father resides in Louisville and he will be living with him while Laura secures a position in this area and while they attend to the details of selling their home, relocating, etc.

Join us to worship on January 6 and to meet, greet, and welcome Pastor Meier into our Faith family!

## Annual Congregation Meeting

The annual congregation meeting to elect Council members and conduct the business of the parish will be held following worship on  
Sunday, January 27, 2008

A pitch in lunch will follow worship.

Meat will be provided.



## *Farewell, Pastor John*

Faith members said a fond farewell to Pastor John Hawkins on December 23. Following a stirring worship service, which included a special farewell number by the choir, "We Say Amen", lunch was enjoyed. Pastor was presented a gift of the pastoral edition of the new Lutheran Worship and a plaque from the choir.



## OWLS

The OWLS enjoyed a great afternoon of music, good food and fellowship attending the Thoroughbred concert on December 1st. Little did we know the "star of the show" was in our midst! Mike Smith joined the Alley Cats on stage and was a BIG hit with the audience. Unfortunately, the day ended on a broken note when Don Smith fell and fractured his leg leaving Cunningham's restaurant. We all wish him well and pray for Vivian during his recovery.

Thanks to donations from members of the congregation, the cost of the Thanksgiving baskets delivered by the junior youth group has been defrayed and all money received from the return on Thoroughbred tickets and donations from the congregation was applied to

CLM Christmas baskets. At the time of this report, Dennis Johnson had collected \$275. Thanks to all for your generous support.

Dennis and Arlys Johnson hosted a holiday social gathering at their home on Friday, December 28th. Thanks for your gracious hospitality, Arlys and Dennis.

The new year brings us opportunities to serve at the Ken Ellis Center. We hope to have something scheduled for late January or February. Would the OWLS like to take 1 month on the 2008 calendar to host coffee after worship or take a month to provide greeters before worship or take a month to volunteer in the nursery? Contact Arlys Johnson or Virginia Klemens with ideas for service or so-

## VIRGINIA KLEMENS

cial activities.

Welcome to Pastor Scott Meier and his wife. We hope they'll join us for service and fun in the near future.

Giving a hoot for the OWLS, I am Virginia Klemens

**YOUTH NEWS**

SARAH RIFE

This January, we will start the New Year off with a youth meeting and then following it, some exciting games of bowling. These two events will be on the 6<sup>th</sup> after church, and we ask everyone to come to the meeting and then go bowling. We will be bowling in New Albany, and will eat some lunch before we go. Saturday, January 26<sup>th</sup>, the youth will be cook and serve dinner for the Civil Air Patrol. All the youth are asked to come at 3 pm and help set up, and stay as late as they can for serving and clean up. Each youth needs to bring some type of dessert to have for the dinner. This is a major fundraiser for youth events.

Sunday the 27<sup>th</sup>, the youth will be leading the congregation in our youth service. We ask everyone to participate

in this service in any way they can. Also on the 20<sup>th</sup>, we will have a meeting regarding our trip to New Orleans in 2009. We will talk about any concerns there are with this trip and if we even want to attend this trip. Anyone who will be eligible to go to New Orleans is encouraged to come to this meeting, and voice their opinions and concerns.

There is a Pure Ministry Conference going on with the churches in Southern Indiana and Northern Kentucky. It will have two weekend retreats, and the first retreat will be February 17<sup>th</sup>-18<sup>th</sup>. We are looking for anyone in high school to go to this event. Hope everyone has a good January, and that you all try to come to the events and community services we do.

**CENTER FOR LAY MINISTRIES**

SUE NEATHAMER

On behalf of the CLM Board of Directors, I want to thank Faith Lutheran Church for their generous support of the Christmas Basket Project of 2007.

Over 380 pounds of food was collected at Faith for this project. Between the cans of corn we gathered and monies collected we more than met our goal of 500 cans.

Both the OWLS and WELCA coordinated

donations for the Baskets. The Youth Group and others bought gifts for 21 children on the Angel Tree.

There were 615 applications for Christmas Baskets this year. 289 of those were assigned to businesses or churches in Clark County. CLM delivered 204 baskets to Claysburg Towers and Clark Arms in Jeffersonville and Farrington and Yellow Wood Apartments in Clarks-ville.

121 food baskets were picked up by families at the Center on December 14<sup>th</sup> along with gifts for their children .

**CLM NEEDS FOR  
JANUARY**  
Canned Goods and other non-perishables

## PRAYER REQUESTS

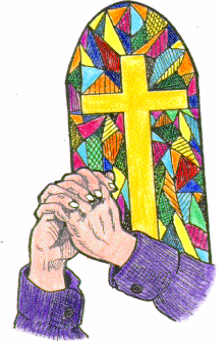
We ask God's special healing for:

Dot Clerici	Adam Sizen
Betty Condra	Eric Hall
Hallie Kusch	Gina Barr
Don Smith	Makayla Mengen
Roger Rice	Bob Dietrich
Walter Clive	Buddy Hustedt
Ron and Marilyn Thorenson	Fran Heuton
Betty McLaughlin	Betty Roethe
Ron Barr	Patsy Heck
Natalie Lane Clark	Melvin Minton
Dorothy McCall	

Our prayers of sympathy are with Don and Edie Maas as Don's mother, Thelma, en-

tered eternal life December 9.

If you are in need 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)



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

## HAPPY BIRTHDAY & ANNIVERSARY

***God's blessings to these January birthdays:***

Marsh 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
Jessi Jones	1/13
Kelly Cooke	1/18
Wendy Yellina	1/18
Judy Diekhoff	1/19
Brandon Woehrle	1/24
Gordon McCall	1/25
Sandra Maas	1/28
Dorothy Clerici	1/29
Betty Condra	1/31

***We celebrate with these couples having anniversaries in January:***

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



I would offer grateful thanks to everyone for prayers, cards, & calls during my recent illness.

One more time God is so Good. I could feel your prayers. I knew I would be healed with so many of you praying for me, but also He told me so.

When I could finally read again, I opened my "New Natural Healing Encyclopedia". It opened to the page before the Introduction page.

There was the Bible verse Jeremiah 30:17a, "For I will restore health to you, and your wounds I will heal".

Thank you,  
Dorothy McCall

### Faithful Quilters

We will resume our meetings on January 7 at the church at 10 am.

Please join us for fellowship and hand work for those who use our warm, cuddly quilts. Also, remember to bring your lunch.

**FAITH LUTHERAN CHURCH**  
**Special Congregational Meeting Minutes**  
**The Vote to Extend a Call To Pastor Scott Meier.**

**Meeting date: 10/21/07**

**Call to Order 12:02 pm**

Pastor John gave a brief explanation of why he was leading the meeting.

Pastor John led a prayer and a reading from Ephesians.

Pastor John asked if there was a quorum present. It was acknowledged that there was.

An explanation of the call process was given. The procedure starts with the selection of a "Call Committee". The call committee is given names from the synod. Arrangements are made and the candidate is interviewed. If after the interview the call committee and the candidate agree to proceed with the process the call committee forwards the name to the "Church Council". Council sets up an interview with the candidate. If after the interview council and the candidate agree to continue, council provides an opportunity for the congregation to meet the candidate. Following this meeting the congregation will vote on the candidate. The candidate will be voted on with a 2/3 written vote. If the vote is in favor of extending a call, a second verbal yes/no vote is taken on the candidate's compensation package. The candidate then has 30 days to accept/decline the offer. If the candidate refuses the offer the process starts all over.

Pastor John asked for the church councils recommendation and call documents. President Tom Hayes presented them to Pastor.

Pastor read the "Letter of Call"

The floor was opened for discussion. There were no questions.

Ballots were distributed and a vote was taken. The ballots were gathered and counted by Tami Czerwonka and Rick Barr.

The vote totals, 71 members signed in, 68 members voted yes to extend the call to Pastor Scott Meier, 1 no, and 2 abstained.

The next phase of the meeting was to vote on Pastor Meier's compensation package.

The floor was opened for discussion.

Marsha Woods asked if this package was different from the synod guidelines. The answer was that council followed synod guidelines except on the housing allowance where council decided to go with 32% of the base instead of 30%.

John Taylor had a question about Pastor Meier's current housing situation. Council answered that Pastor Meier would plan on living with his father who lives in Louisville until his house could be sold and a new one purchased.

Marsha Woods asked if this package had been presented to Pastor Meier. Answer; no the synod would present it to him after they received it.

Barbara Morris-Nix asked about moving expenses. Pastor John answered that they are usually paid when presented to the congregation.

Donna Baugh asked about the health insurance portion of the package. How long are the children covered under this plan? Answer; usually children are covered until they are out of school.

Ed Peter asked if the package was figured for the remainder of 2007 or was it figured for 2008. Pastor John answered for 2008.

Nancy Thompson asked if we knew how much Pastor Meier was currently making. Answer; NO.

Arlys Johnson expressed concern about the open ended moving expense. Marsha Woods replied that most Pastors are very responsible about moving expenses and that we should have enough money budgeted for this expense.

Vivian Smith asked how this package fits into our present budget.

Bill Holman responded that it does fit, and that it is actually about \$6585.32 less. The reason for the difference was due to the years of experience between Pastor John and Pastor Scott.

Without any further questions the compensation package was called for a vote. The package unanimously passed.

Marsha Woods moved to adjourn the meeting, Patti Smith seconded, motion passed.

Meeting adjourned at 12:27.

Minutes Faithfully submitted,

Scott Rife

## WELCA NOTES

### January Meeting Schedule:

**Sunshine Circle** Bible study's next scheduled meeting is January 9.

**Wheadon Friendship Circle** Bible study will meet January 8 at 7 pm at the home of Arlys Johnson.

**The next quarterly meeting will be Saturday, March 1 at 10:00 am .**

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

A big thank you to all of the women that attended our quarterly meeting on Saturday December 1. We had some new women in our group and this is always exciting. It was good to have you with us. Thank you to Marsha who opened her home to us. The food was delicious and of course there was a variety of cookies that would make any pastry chef envious. We made 10 boxes that we delivered to our shut ins and senior members. Nothing like a goody box of cookies to make you feel important!

January will start a new year for us all and with that comes all the new commitments. Exercise more, lose weight, and spend more time with family and friends. As the new leader of WELCA along with Dorothy McCall and Vivian Smith I would hope that we as the women of our church will think about making a new commitment to our women's group and its mission.

The mission of WELCA as I see it is to give the women of our church the opportunity to be involved in bible study, topics that are of interest to women, serve others in our church, the community and the world and develop friendships with our sisters in Christ. We can do this by staying involved in or be-

coming involved in one of the two circles we now offer.

The Sunshine Circle meets at 10am to approximately 11:30 the second Wednesday of the month at the church. There are anywhere from five to eight women who meet and they are involved in a very good bible study. In January, the study will focus on Secret #9, "Look to the Lord When You Don't know What to Do" (The Prayer Life of Jehoshaphat). They would love for you to join them.

The Wheadon Circle has been meeting at the church on the third Tuesday of the month. This will be changed starting in January. We will now meet on the second Tuesday of the month and we will be meeting in the homes. This circle has been involved in a study about friendships. It has been a good study but we will be investigating some new options. The January meeting will be in my home at 7pm. We will try not to go over the hour limit we have tried to adhere to.

Bev Haire has volunteered to take charge of the Lenten Dinners again and we thank her for doing this. We will have the first dinner at 6:00 on Wednesday February 13. There will be a sign up sheet for

ARLYS JOHNSON

this and it is very helpful to the women preparing the meal to know how many to prepare for. We have decided this year to advertise in advance that we are taking the profits from these dinners to help the Loaves and Fishes mission in our community. So remember that the dinner is a free-will offering but, we hope to make money to help the needy.

Cathie Wheat and Nicole Parish will co-chair the committee for the Center for Women and Children. The group will be working on putting together Valentine baskets for the women in this shelter. We will be looking forward to getting the list of items that will be needed to help put some love into the lives of these women who have been through so much. Thank you to Peg Gernard for chairing this committee in the past.

Barb Brewster has once again agreed to make sure that the Loaves and Fishes dates are staffed. The dates will be January 12, May 3, July 19, and October 4. The youth group has signed up for October 4 so that leaves three dates for us. We welcome everyone in the church to get involved with this

worthwhile project. This truly does make us thankful for all of our many

WELCA (CONTINUED)ARLYS JOHNSON

blessings.

Marsha Woods has agreed to coordinate the Altar Guild project. There is still a need for people to sign up so please let Marsha know if this is something you would like to do to serve your church. She is willing to help if you are not sure how to do this.

We would like to thank Patti Smith and Marsha Woods for co-leading the WELCA. We appreciate their leadership and know

that they will remain a valuable resource for us. Thank you Patti and Marsha. We also would like to thank Beth Landis for continuing her role as our Treasurer. Thank you Beth.

I know we are all busy and sometimes we really can not attend the WELCA meetings. (I know three years ago we were blessed with twin grandbabies and it was all I could do to get to work and help with the babies, so attending

WELCA wasn't in the cards.) I do want you to know that you are all welcome and you are missed when you are not there. Hopefully you will get excited about one of our projects and this will motivate you to get involved. I am hoping we will develop a loyalty to our women's groups and projects like many people do to their bunco group! God has dealt us all a pretty good hand and now its up to us to play it!

**WELCA JOINT QUARTERLY MEETING MINUTES DECEMBER 1, 2007**

The meeting was called to order by Patti Smith, who offered devotions.

Those present included Nancy Vogt, Beth Landis, Barb Morris-Nix, Patti Smith, Marsha Woods, Peg Gernand, Terri Barr, Linda Woehrle, Donna Baugh, Amy Holaday, Cathie Wheat, Bev Haire, Dorothy McCall, Arlys Johnson, Judy Diekhoff, Nicole Parish and Lori Broland.

Beth Landis presented the treasurer's report, indicating that the monies have been disbursed for CLM Holiday Baskets (\$300) and Lutheran Hills Reading Camp (\$700) as directed at the September meeting. Bev Haire moved to accept the Treasurer's Report, Barb Morris seconded, motion passed.

Discussion of the Bible Studies included whether to move the evening (Wheadon Circle) study to the second Tuesday of the month, which was approved, beginning in January. The Sunshine Circle will continue to meet the second Wednesday of each month.

The discussion turned to outreach programs and activities. Bev Haire volunteered to organize the 2008 Lenten Dinners, making sure there were teams set to prepare each meal. The means begin Wednesday, February 13. Patti thanked Bev for volunteering again this year. The monies for the 2008 dinners will be donated to Loaves and Fishes.

Cathie Wheat suggested that Valentine's Day baskets might be prepared for the mothers at the Center for Women and Children. Nancy Vogt asked if they were in need of quilts, and finding that they were, volunteered some from the quilter's. Cathie Wheat and Nicole Parish will work together to see that the donated items are taken to the Center and will coordinate the Valentine's Day basket effort. Arlys requested a list of items they need.

CLM- it was noted that the "Angels" for CLM are on the tree at church and most have been adopted. The youth will wrap the gifts on December 9 and Marsha and Roger Emily will take them to CLM. 21 angels were adopted.

The Loaves and Fishes dates for 2008 are January 12, May 3 (Derby Day), July 19 and October 4. It is expected that the youth will take one date and Patti will encourage Council to take one date. Barb Brewster is the point person for this project.

The Altar Guild list was passed around for signups. Marsha will coordinate this effort. It was suggested that it is helpful if teams sign up for this duty. Any questions about how the altar should be set up can be directed to Marsha. It was reminded that making sure the flowers are placed appropriately is part of the Altar Guild duties.

Discussion turned to leadership for 2008. Marsha moved that terms be one year, as there had been a question about whether

Continued on page 11...



## LIBRARY NEWS

NANCY THOMPSON

New beginnings – that’s what’s been on my mind lately. Whenever a year comes to a close and a new one begins, we usually step back, reflect on what has happened and think about where we’d like to be. These reflections have even more significance for us this year because Faith has finally found a new pastor. It was nearly 3 and a half years ago that Pastor Vogler moved on after serving us for so many years. At the very same time, the church library opened its doors. Pastor Joyce joined us in the interim and lead us in finding answers to the hard but necessary questions of “Who are we?” and “What is it that we want to accomplish?”. Some of us came forward to do some of the many things Pastor Vogler did quietly on his own. Then Pastor John came. As soon as he projected “Just call me PJ”, he was one of us. I could attempt to tell you what his presence has meant to me, but Tom Hayes

expressed my sentiments better than I ever could in last month’s newsletter. Suffice to say, we have successfully come to the end of a long, arduous journey. We have grown but only because God lead us each step of the way. Yes, we are fewer in number but we have started new programs and branched out in ways we never had the courage to before. In the library pre-schoolers will soon be able to take library books home with them, thanks to Arlys Johnson and Virginia Klemens. On a personal level, I am learning that others are oftentimes happy to help out if you just have the courage to ask. Pastor Scott will take us where we are now and lead us in new directions. It’s a new beginning and only God knows what He has in mind.



*Council minutes continued from previous page...*

**FAITH LUTHERAN CHURCH  
COUNCIL MINUTES**

**Meeting date: 12/2/07 Call to Order 12:44 pm**

**Roll Call:** X indicates member(s) not present

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Rick Barr	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Tami Czerwonka	<input type="checkbox"/> Chuck Landis
<input type="checkbox"/> Tom Hayes	<input type="checkbox"/> Bill Holman	<input type="checkbox"/> Scott Rife
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Don Walker	<input type="checkbox"/> Molly Hegenbarth	<input type="checkbox"/> Patti Smith
<input type="checkbox"/> Pastor John	<input type="checkbox"/> Edie Maas	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> *Jordan Emily

\* Denotes youth council liaison.

**Devotions:** Tom Hayes led devotions from the booklet “Living in God’s Amazing Grace, Thanks be to God” the theme of the devotion being “The Birth Of Jesus, Little Things Mean A Lot.”

**Approval of Minutes from previous Council Meeting:** The minutes being reviewed were for the Church Council Minutes from 11/11/07. Bill Holman moved to accept the Council Minutes, Chuck Landis seconded, motion passed.

**Treasurer’s Report:** Edie Maas presented the treasurer’s report. Patti Smith moved to accept the report pending audit, Molly Hegenbarth seconded, motion passed.

**Financial Secretary’s Report:** Molly Hegenbarth reported that during November, Faith took in \$11,819.17 in giving toward our budget. That total is \$3400.75 behind our budgetary needs for the month. Scott Rife moved to accept the financial secretary’s report, Bill Holman seconded, motion passed.

## WEEKDAY CHURCH SCHOOL

CAROL TAYLOR

Weekday church School will resume on January 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2008. We have had two children leave the program due to parents work schedules and transportation problems. This puts the Pre -K class at 28 students. This is the number of children we would like to have in this class because this gives us four groups with seven children in each group. So, at this time, we still will not take anyone from the waiting list. The youngest class would like to welcome Mathia Giar into their class. There is still one spot available in this class.

When school begins again in January the children will hear stories about how Jesus grew from a tiny baby into a man who taught the people about God's love. The Pre-K class will be making several stops along His life. They will visit Jesus as a young boy living with his family and learning the carpenter's trade, Jesus at twelve years of age when he visits the temple, and the adult Jesus as he calls his helpers Peter, James, John, and Andrew. At the same time as they are hearing these stories, they will also be talking about what life was like in Jesus day. There were no cars or planes, no stoves to cook in the house, shopping was in an open market place, and sleeping was done on the flat roof of their home. It will also be pointed out that God's has a plan for them to grow and become an adult just like Jesus did. And just like Jesus, God also has a plan for them to be His helpers and show love and kindness to other people.

The First year children will be looking at God's plan for winter. They will talk about sleeping trees, snow and ice, and the need for mittens and coats. Later in the month they also will be hearing different stories of Jesus life, his visit to the temple, and the calling of the fishermen to be his helpers.

At the end of January the older group will look at the change of seasons, compare winter to fall and summer, and begin to understand that each of the four seasons make up a year. They will begin to realize that when they turn five years old, it means they have lived through five series of the four seasons. Watching this light bulb come on as they begin to understand time is one of the fun things in teaching this age children. And then you add the fact that God is so smart that he planned all of this. This is the beginning of their realization that God, our God, is a truly an Awesome God!!! And this folks is what Weekday is really about, helping these children to know and love a God who loves them back, knowing a God who is always there, and helping them hear the message some of them may only hear from us at Faith Lutheran Church at this time and in this place in their lives. This is why 17 people give one or two morning each week to this ministry. Anyone one else out there want to join in with this work for that Awesome God???? We can always use more hands. All are welcome.



### *WELCA Minutes continued from page 8...*

they were one or two year terms. Bev Haire second, motion passed. Dorothy McCall offered to continue leading the Bible study, but wanted someone else to be named the leader. Patti will approach Vivian Smith about continuing in that role. Arlys Johnson volunteered to serve as the Wheadon Circle leader and will lead the Bible studies as well. Beth Landis agreed to continue as Treasurer.

Patti mentioned that she had received information from CFW about sponsoring their efforts. It was generally decided that WELCA preferred to continue with its present programs for the time being.

The next quarterly meeting will be at 10:00 am on Saturday, March 1, 2008 at church.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned and cookie boxes were organized and enjoyed.

## FINANCE MATTERS

MOLLY HEGENBARTH

January starts a new year. Faith will have a new pastor. We are beginning a new journey. We have a new budget and new pledges. We start all over again. The slate is clean and it will be whatever we make of it.

Last year I focused on a year round stewardship program. When we had our stewardship drive a few months ago, it was not only focused on finances, but also to look at our lives as treasure chests. Was your treasure chest overflowing? Can you share more? How can we grow our Faith Family? How do we reach out to our commu-

nity? How do we spread God's good news with those around us?

God is good – All the Time. All the time - God is Good. God is with us – All the Time. All the Time - God is with us. How do we spread this good news with those around us?

Begin this month and take a few extra steps to share what you have been given. Give more of your time, your treasures, your life. The blessings you share come back to benefit you.

If we all start today living up to our pledges, we can grow financially. We grow finan-

cially then we can reach others around us. We can grow our family and spread God's Good News.

Open your treasure chest and God will bless you more than you know. 2008 starts a new journey and together it will be a journey that will touch the lives of many.

Have you made your 2008 pledge?

Pledges for 2008 for are estimated at \$143,968. The budget calls for \$3,626 weekly and pledges make up \$2801. We need to shoot for an additional \$825.00 a week to make our budget.

What will you do to help us make our budgeted numbers?

### Annual Congregational Meeting

Following worship

Sunday, January 27, 2008

Meat is provided. Please bring a dish to share



Don Maas has a wheelchair, 2 walkers and set of adult crutches that he is willing to lend out. He will deliver them if needed. If anyone is interested in purchasing any of the items, make a donation to Faith Lutheran Church. For more information contact the church office or Don Maas.

## CHRISTIAN EDUCATION

CAROL TAYLOR

### The Sunday School

The Sunday school teachers and Christian Education committee would like to thank all who helped in any way with the Christmas program and dinner on December the 16<sup>th</sup>. The pitch in was wonderful, and the play brought out the true reason for the Christ child's birth. He is the Way-Maker who leads us back into the presence of the Father. To the fractured, failed, and inadequate, he is the One Who Forgives, To those whose lives are filled with strife, He is the Prince of Peace,. All of these and more are summed up in one name, the name that is above all others, JESUS, the WORD, become flesh. "Therefore God exalted him to the highest place and gave him the name that is above every name, that at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, and every tongue confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father."

Sunday school attendance has dropped off during the last part of December in all of the classes, yes, even the adults. With a new month and a new year let's see if this can go back up and exceed what it was in September. The teachers work hard each week and appreciate a chance to use what they have prepared. See you in Sunday school at 9:15 each Sunday morning.

### The Confirmation Class

The eight students in this class have finished their study of the first article of the creed and have begun the study of the second article during December. Classes will resume after Christmas break on Wed. Jan. 9<sup>th</sup>. We will welcome Pastor Scott Meier into our discussions. Pastor Scott and Carol plan to team teach this class just as Pastor John and Mrs. "T" had been doing.

Several of you have asked when confirmation will be this spring. It will be on Mother's Day, May 11. This date was chosen because it is also Pentecost Sunday. Pentecost is early this year because Lent begins Wednesday, February 6<sup>th</sup> and Easter will be March 23<sup>rd</sup>. Three of the

eight students will be confirmed at this time. They are Tara Miller, Stephen Fox, and Tyler Landis.

### Nursery Worker Search Committee

As of this writing, the committee has two names of persons who are interested in filling this position each Sunday morning. They will work from 9:00 to 12:00 each and every Sun morning. For this time with our little ones they will be paid \$30.00 per week. As of this writing we plan to meet with the both of the candidates on December 17<sup>th</sup> and we hope to fill this position that evening. Both of them have presented very useable and interesting resumes. As of this writing, the individual has been recommended to Council and we are awaiting that approval. We hope to have a permanent babysitter in place before Christmas.

### Bible School Writing Committee

The group responsible for writing and planning Bible school for the summer of 2008 will meet on Monday, January 28<sup>th</sup> at 7:00. Writers are to have outlines of their plans for the week. We will share ideas for presenting the various stories, and discuss the music, art, and recreation projects that will go with each days lesson. Nancy Falkenstein will write for grades five and six. Virginia Klemens will write for grades two and three. Arlys Johnson will be writing for kindergarten, first, and second grades, while Carol Taylor will write the material for pre-school children. Terri Barr will work up the art projects, Barbara Brewster will be planning the music part of the program, and Donna Baugh and Nancy Falkenstein will be working on decorations. The Falkensteins will also be working up everyone's favorite class- snack time. Anyone interested in helping with any part of this project needs only to show up at 7 o'clock on Jan 28<sup>th</sup> to be included in this project. We can use all the help we can get in order to make this the best VBS program that we can produce here at Faith.

## PRESIDENT'S LETTER

TOM HAYES

Happy New Year everybody, I hope last year was as good as you wished for. And I wish this year all goes as well as you hope. I know we are all excited about Pastor Meier joining our congregation this year and I know he is excited as well. We sure are glad to welcome him and his family into our family and our church. Be sure to wear your nametags for a while until he knows everyone's name. Just because we have a new Pastor doesn't mean we get to go back to sleep and think our work is done. I don't think that would happen because we've come so far already, besides, Pastor Scott isn't coming here to coast along until he retires and hope God says, "Well done." If he does then we will have gotten the wrong person. Nothing drastic is going to happen overnight so don't think that either.

When Pastor Scott came to lead our worship service, two questions were asked of me. I didn't do a very good job of answering those questions. I apologize. (1) What made us decide on Pastor Scott? (2) What was the five-year plan? So without putting words in Pastor Scott's mouth, I will try to answer them now. The answers to

both questions are one and the same, and it is really more of a wish than a plan. Before we had the interview with Pastor Scott, we were discussing what questions we were going to ask. Then we tried to consider what questions he would ask us. One question that we thought both of us would ask each other was, "Where do you see the church in 5 years?" Both of us did ask this of each other, and these are some of the ideas we discussed. We would hope that the congregation would grow by 10% to 15%, which would mean more of us would have to go out and evangelize. It would require that we make our presence more known in the community than it already is, possibly by advertising in the newspapers, or other media. We need to find ways to keep the young adults like Kari, Ashley, Marta, Kyle, Sara and Susan coming back regularly. Maybe we can get a Rat Pack going for them. The parents can help by not sending their kids away to college. I mean we have UofL, IUS, and Ivy Tech. What more do you want? We would like to get the newlyweds to have kids and bring them to church. Just like Philip and Meredith are doing. So we

have to get another type of outreach for them. And if these people have any suggestions, I would like to hear them.

We need someone to take over the program that Michelle Mitchell was doing so people will stay because there is something for the preschoolers. Maybe get a church van to drive for events, and go pick people up so they can come to church like Mr. Condra used to do. Maybe we could start having Saturday evening services for people that would like to sleep in or work on Sundays, or make it an alternative service. These are some of the ideas that Pastor Scott and we had in common that were almost verbatim to each other. As Mr. Rife stated, "It was as if he was listening in on our meeting." And, like I said, it is more of a wish than a plan. For it to be a plan all of us would have to agree to strive for this. I hope this better explains why we called Pastor Scott.

So where do you see the church in 5 years, and how do see us getting there? Remember, we're all in this together, and with God's help we'll get there.

Feel free to discuss anything with me.

God's Peace to You

## Annual Congregation Meeting

The annual congregation meeting to elect Council members and conduct the business of the parish will be held following worship on Sunday, January 27, 2008



JANUARY  
2008

# NEWSLETTER



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## SERVING AT FAITH FOR THE MONTH OF JANUARY

USHERS: BETH AND CHUCK LANDIS, JOHN TAYLOR, MIKE VESCELUS

ALTAR GUILD: PATTI SMITH AND MARSHA WOODS

FINANCIAL ASSISTANT: TOM HAYES

### WEEKLY ASSISTANTS:

<u>SUN.</u>	<u>ASSIST</u>	<u>ACOL.</u>	<u>CRUC.</u>	<u>NURS.</u>	<u>SOCIAL</u>	<u>GREETERS</u>	<u>AUDIO</u>
6	T. HAYES	T. LANDIS	K. RIFE	C. HOLMAN	STEABAN	FARMER	R. BARR
13	V. KLEMENS	?	S. RIFE	K. FARMER	TAYLORS	VESCELUS	JIM H
20	M. WOODS	S. FOX	W. CZER.	?	?	CAMPBELL	JIM H.
27	YOUTH SUN.	C. FOX	J. EMILY	V. KLEMENS	ANN. MTG.	EMILY	BILL H.