

Faith Matters

February 2012



Pastor's Page

Confirmation Class....For the Congregation!

The Lord's Prayer - Dangerous?

During the Lenten season last year, we combined our Lenten theme with the confirmation theme. It was great to have confirmands present and active in our Wednesday night services! As an extension of the worship, many experienced small group discussion time with our confirmands. We are looking at ways to improve this experience and continue this practice.

Our theme for this year will revolve around the Lord's Prayer. Luther once called this the "greatest of all prayers because it was taught by the greatest Master of all." It is a "prayer in which all spiritual and bodily trouble is comprehended. It provides the strongest consolation in all temptations, tribulations, and in the last hour." Luther also called the Lord's Prayer the "greatest martyr" because "everyone torments it and misuses, and few comfort and cheer it by using it correctly."

The well-known author, Pastor Frederick Buechner, once called the Lord's Prayer "a dangerous prayer" to pray. How can a prayer we so easily say Sunday after Sunday be all that? Radical? Dangerous? Counter-cultural? A prayer against ourselves? **A brief overview is offered on page 2 to give a sense of the power of this prayer.** It is also a way to begin to prepare for our study of it. Our Lenten Confirmation journey begins February 22. Let's be in worship and study *with* each other, as surely as we are in prayer *for* each other!

In Christ,

Pastor Randy Freund

Upcoming Dates to Remember...

First Joyful Noise Chime Choir Meeting

Wed. Jan. 25, 5:15 p.m.
(see p. 6)

Legacy of Faith... Moving Forward Pick Up

Sun. Jan. 29

Congregational Meeting

Sun. Jan. 29, 12:15 p.m.

Mission Awareness Program

Wed. Feb. 1 (see Faith Kidz News)

Mentor Day

Wed. Feb. 1, 6 p.m.

19th Annual Fish Fry

Fri. Feb. 10, 11-7 p.m.

Empty Nesters Wine Tasting

Sun. Feb. 12, 3-6 p.m.

Ash Wednesday Service

Wed. Feb. 22, 6:30 p.m.

Life Line Screening in the Faith Center

Fri. Feb. 24, (see p. 4)

Revolve Tour (for Middle School girls)

April 20-22 (see p. 4)

Rummage Sale

April 26, 27 & 28 (see p. 4)

19th Annual Fish Fry

All You Can Eat!

Fri. Feb. 10

11 a.m. - 7 p.m.

(or until the fish runs out)

Faith Lutheran Church
335 Main Street South
Hutchinson, MN (Use East Entrance)

Alaskan Pollock, Cole Slaw,
Homestyle Baked Beans, Potato
Salad, Beverage

Adults	\$10
Seniors	\$9
Ages 6-12	\$6
5 and Under	FREE

All Carry-outs and Call-ins Available for \$10 / Evening deliveries from 4 to 5:30 p.m. call 587-2093 / Proceeds will help in supporting Green Lake Bible Camp and other Faith Lutheran Church Ministries.

The Lord's Prayer

Why Pray... and against yourself?

2012 Lenten Confirmation Series

6:30 p.m. Wednesday night services
for the whole congregation during Lent.

Ash Wed. (Feb. 22) - Introduction to Prayer and the Lord's Prayer

Feb. 29 - First Petition: What's in a name?

March 7 - Second Petition: Whose Kingdom?

March 14 - Third Petition: Suffering in the world... God's will?!

March 21 - Fourth Petition - Daily Bread

March 28 - Fifth Petition - Forgiveness

Maundy Thursday (April 5) - Sixth Petition: Temptation

Good Friday (April 6) - Seventh Petition: The Subtle Nature of Evil

Easter (April 8)



Faith Lutheran Church
335 Main Street South
Hutchinson, MN 55350
320-587-2093

www.FaithLC.com

Our Father who art in heaven

Here God invites us (even commands us) to come to Him with complete confidence with ALL matters – big and small. The invitation to address an *Almighty and eternal God* in the same way a child would come to a loving parent sets the stage for this radical prayer.

Hallowed be thy name

How is God's name "different" and "set apart" (i.e. holy)? God has tied His name to the Word of God. This petition teaches us that to honor or dishonor God's *name* is connected to how we honor or dishonor God's *Word*.

Thy kingdom come

We can't stop or bring on God's Kingdom. God's reign and rule and power will come no matter what. The only issue here is whether or not it comes to us. Would we know God's Kingdom when we see it? How do you look for something you can't see or pinpoint on a map (name ly, God's Kingdom)? And what if God's kingdom is counter-cultural to all other kingdoms (political and personal)?

The Lord's Prayer

Why Pray... and against yourself?

By Pastor Randy Freund

The 2012 Lenten theme is The Lord's Prayer, and we will learn more about it during special worship services at 6:30 p.m. on Wednesdays through Lent.

Thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven

This is perhaps the MOST RADICAL of all the petitions. Why would we pray *against* our wills by praying *for* God's will in our lives? We are taught from day one the importance of self-sufficiency, self-reliance and self-determination. What about MY hopes, MY dreams, MY will? In this third petition we find a clash of wills. Dare we go on?

Give us this day our daily bread

Most likely, when we come to this petition, it is the easiest to understand and pray. It has a "Thanksgiving Day" sense to it. We pause to thank God for our blessings – food, clothes, home and our families. But that is only where the list begins. Luther suggests that "daily bread" also includes work and income, an orderly community, good government, favorable weather, peace and health, a good name and true friends and neighbors!

And forgive us our trespasses as we forgive those who trespass against us

As humans, forgiveness is a hard and freeing thing. To ask the forgiveness of another we have wronged often takes boldness and courage (as well as humility and remorse). But here forgiveness is on a whole new plain. We are talking about God, after all. When it comes to forgiveness, God makes the first move. That is enough to boggle the mind.



And lead us not into temptation

When one thinks of temptations or great sins, many of our lists would likely be similar. It is pretty easy to name and detect such things. Luther was always interested in sin's subtle nature. "The devil does more damage through virtue than vice," he once said. So it should not surprise us that "false belief and despair" rise to the top of Luther's list when talking about temptations and sins.

But deliver us from evil

A seminary professor of mine once gave this illustration for this petition. After reflecting on the horror and rampant evil that defined the Holocaust, he said, "This would be the norm for us were God not constantly holding evil at bay." It is an interesting perspective to think about. This is the petition that reminds us that there is a battle constantly raging over us – body and soul.

For thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory forever and ever.

Amen.

To say "Amen!" to all these petitions is to say "Yes!" All kingdoms, all power, and all glory belong to God alone. And because this is true, we would readily place our lives in the hands of the true God who has revealed himself in Christ Jesus.

Learn more Wednesdays at 6:30 p.m. during Lent at FLC.

Legacy of Faith...Moving Forward

As this issue of *Faith Matters* goes to print, we are praying for God to bring a generous



response to the new capital campaign, but we do not yet know the results. What we do know is that the gifts given to this effort can make a huge difference in the future for the church's finances.

The church's mortgage is like that on a home. It has to be paid every month, without fail. And, like a home mortgage, most of each month's payment goes to interest. A strong response to *Legacy of Faith...Moving Forward*, however, may allow Faith to make a significant payment on the principal of the loan, lower the interest rate and reduce the monthly payment. In that case, the church would try to keep paying the original monthly amount to accelerate the pay-down of the remaining principal. These moves would save thousands upon thousands of dollars in interest over the life of the loan.

When the pledges are in, we will let you know what your generosity has made it possible to do. In the meantime, keep praying for God's blessing on this campaign!



2 ILT Courses offered at Faith this spring!

"Discipleship Delivered: Disguised and Daring" *taught by Pastor Randy Freund*

What if "discipleship" was the REASON you and I were born? What if there was nothing more urgent or pressing than the Great Commission? Given the fact that both are true, in this course, Pastor Randy Freund challenges our modern, pluralistic mindset in favor of discipleship "disguised" as we live out our vocations and more "daring" as we "name the name" in bold ways.

Mondays, January 30 - March 5
7 - 8 p.m.

This is a six-session course and is an extension of what was taught at Faith Lutheran last fall.

"Paul's Epistles: 1 Thessalonians"

Paul is one of the most significant New Testament witnesses to the early church and to early proclamations of Jesus. He is also one of the most controversial. In this course, Professor Kyle Fever will introduce participants to the first of Paul's life letters in the New Testament.

This live online course will be held at FLC on:

Mondays, March 12 - April 23
7 - 8 p.m.

Please contact Marsha at 234-8400 to sign up or for more information on either of these classes!

Coming Soon to

Adult Forum

Sundays at 9:15 a.m. in the
Faith Center

February

Meet Your Ministry Partners:

SOLA Publishing
The New Face of World Missions
Challenges of Campus Ministry
And more...

During Lent

For God So Loved the World He
Gave His Only Son To Bring:
Healing to the Broken Hearted
Foolishness to the Wise
Freedom to the Captives

Give-12

(A monthly reflection on Biblical stewardship and the financial health of Faith Lutheran Church.)

By Pastor Scott Grorud

My children have often been surprised when they compared their earnings from part-time or summer work to the bills we pay each month as a family. The difference suddenly makes their hard-earned dollars seem like a much smaller amount, even though it is significant for them.

Something similar can happen with the annual expenses of Faith Lutheran. The proposed budget for 2012 is \$737,750, a figure that is so far beyond our personal financial reality that it is hard to fathom. It will require an **average weekly offering of \$14,000**—which is still several months' income for most of us.

When that amount is spread across all the households of Faith, however, it can be reached and even exceeded. The amazing

response to the 3-PEAT challenge at the end of 2011 proved that.

It is also important to realize what that money accomplishes each week of the year. It provides a place where people of all ages can gather to grow in faith. It provides staff members who can be present to minister when other members of the church cannot and to equip those other members to minister when the staff cannot. It sends resources around the world (literally—from India to Africa to Eastern Europe and more) to bless people who have never before heard about Jesus or who live in abject poverty. It helps people in need in our own community through Faith's own ministry and agencies like Common Cup or McLeod County Food Shelf.

Faithful giving throughout the year—in proportion to how God provides for us—allows all these efforts to continue. And because of God's rich blessing, it is a goal we can reach and even exceed for Jesus' sake.



Bulletin Board



Faith Lutheran Church Women



RUMMAGE SALE

The FLCW Rummage Sale will be **April 26, 27 & 28**. Start collecting your items, such as clothing, furniture, household items, books and toys. *No large appliances, large exercise equipment, TVs or computers will be accepted.* This is a great opportunity to clean out items not used and find rock bottom treasures. Items can be brought to the church on Mon. April 23.

Watch the bulletin or your email for a survey to help strengthen the FLCW. We would love your opinion.

Would you like to sneak away with your Valentine?

Have you had a chance to check out the Crow River Winery on Hwy 7 East in Hutchinson? Consider joining the Empty Nesters as they host an afternoon of wine tasting and fellowship on Sun. Feb. 12 from 3 to 6 p.m. Cost is \$5 per person to sample 5 different wines. Brief, guided tours are available at 4 p.m. and at 5 p.m.

The Empty Nesters will be providing snacks. You are welcome to come and go as you wish. Feel free to bring friends or guests! Everyone age 21 to 121 is welcome!



KidPower is a supervised, faith-based Christian program for children in grades K - 5 whose parents work when schools are not in session. KidPower is open 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. on non-school days, and costs \$10 per child for 5-10 hours, or \$5 per child for up to 5 hours. For families with several children, the maximum payment is \$25 per family per day.

Upcoming KidPower dates for 2011-2012 school year:

February 20
March 9, 12, 13, 14, 15 & 16
April 6

Applications are available in the Faith Lutheran Church office. Call the office with questions: 587-2093. Only one application is needed per family per year. *However, you will need to contact the church office to register for the individual days your child attends.*

Life Line Screening at Faith Lutheran

Life Line Screening has screened over 6 million participants and has partnered with hospitals across the country. Why? Because the ultrasound screenings that they offer can help save your life.

Life Line Screening offers:

- Stroke/Carotid Artery Screening
- Heart Rhythm Screening (Atrial Fibrillation)
- Abdominal Aortic Aneurysm Screening
- Peripheral Arterial Disease Screening
- Osteoporosis Risk Assessment

Get ALL 5 screenings for only \$149, a savings of \$126. Make an appointment for you and a loved one today.

Where: Faith Lutheran Church, Faith Center

When: Friday, February 24, 2012

Pre-registration is required. Call 1-800-324-1851 (Priority Code: HSC6588)

To register online, go to:

www.lifelinescreening.com/community-partners

The Revolve Tour / April 20 - 22, 2012 / \$120 per person

It's back! Don't miss ***Dream On***, the 2012 production of The Revolve Tour! We'll be in Omaha, Nebraska, with real-life stories, dance-worthy **music** and more **fun** than you can handle combined in a **high-energy**, inspirational, **life-changing Saturday event** for teen girls!

Any Middle School girls interested in attending the Revolve Tour should contact:

Andrea Wollan (234-6734) or Penny Stuber (582-2493).



Council Highlights

Topics discussed at the Jan. 10 Church Council Meeting:

The FaithLife Taskforce has been assembled and will begin planning the first FaithLife camp for April or May of 2012.

The Long Range Planning team has been formed. They had their first meeting on Jan. 17.

Planning for the Lenten services is underway and will feature Wednesday night worship services combined with Confirmation education.

The Annual Meeting was discussed.



Seniors Scene

Just in case you wondered (or even if you didn't), LENT begins in this month of February. Ash Wednesday is February 22. Lent always seems like a dismal time, with a focus on death and darkness; and it comes during a rather dismal winter weather time. But just as God does not focus so much on our sinfulness, but on how He's going to redeem us, so Lent moves steadily and purposefully toward Easter.

I like the way Lent always progresses, and usually weather along with it, toward Easter light and joy. The cross will take its toll on Jesus; but it will not be for long. Thank God we are meant to be the benefactors of that action and that message. Easter comes on April 8 this year. Consider it another announcement from God that though each of us will die, sometime, we will see each other again on Resurrection Day, at the throne of our Savior, Jesus. Think of that when we share the words, "I believe in the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting."

At our February SENIORS POTLUCK meeting, Pastor Scott will discuss "How do I deal with a Mormon?" That's pretty timely since a leading candidate for president of the United States is a Mormon. Are they Christian, or a cult? Why do they sing Christian hymns and use the Bible (along with the Book of Mormon)? How do I deal with a Mormon who knocks on my door and wants me to become a Mormon? Come with your questions, and your friends who also want to know.

February SENIORS POTLUCK meeting is Thursday, February 23, beginning with potluck meal at 12:00 noon. Invite someone to come with you.



New & Noteworthy

Family Workshop Series:
FAITH @ HOME

A once a month discussion meeting in February, March and April in order to equip parents as the primary teachers of faith.



February 5: How to talk to your kids about God

When: 9:15

Where: New North Entry (Door 1)

What: A casual discussion about faith in our families.

Announcing: A new opportunity for you!

Faith Lutheran Players

Like to act? Work with costumes? Build props?

We would love your time, talents and abilities with this newest ministry venture! Faith Lutheran Players is a new ministry group that will help lead congregational skits, scenes and dialogues. This past year people were on hand to help with reenacting the Lord's Supper, recreating the Bethlehem market place, staging a wax museum of Reformation characters, creating a live Nativity and being contestants American Bible Idol.

If you find yourself interested in this kind of activity, we would love to hear from you! Simply email or call Julie at the church office to indicate your interest in being in a pool of participants. As character parts, costumes and props are needed, an email will be sent out. Simply volunteer for the part as need arises.



Thoughts and Prayers

Please remember all those who are serving our country through active duty:

Andrew Hantge (Navy, Everett, WA - son of Marsha Schmit and Robert Hantge)

Sam Butler (Iraq - Nephew of Matt Butler)

Lee Johnson (Fort Bragg, NC - son of Geri & Ralph Johnson)

Lt Col Katie McCormick (granddaughter of Liz & Don Krasen)

CAPT Gail Hathaway (Pearl Harbor - daughter of Marlin & Ruth Torgerson)

CAPT James Lepse (active duty - nephew of Lorraine Burch)

Jerod Paulson (Navy - nephew of Jeanette Fauskee)

Willy Eckstrom (Afghanistan - son of Dean & Karen Eckstrom)

SFC Guy Sing (Iraq - nephew of Tony Sing & cousin of Darlene Karg)

Jason Slinder (Kuwait - nephew of Betty Braun)

Colten Hughes (Iraq & Kuwait - son of Curt & Tressa Hughes)

Justin Olsen (Behring, Kuwait - son of Sharon Grivna and Jerry Olsen)

Remember our Faith members in
Nursing Homes & Health Care Centers

Hector

Jerome Lindquist

Dassel Lakeside

Eloi Hamre

Emmanuel

Litchfield

Pete Hoefs

Prairie Senior

Cottages

Delores Saar

Peg Tapper

Harmony River

Valerie Fimon

Hazel Neuman

Agnes Rettman

Helen Goertzen

Lorraine Burch

Charles Kisling

Faith Lutheran Church

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stump

the pastor

Q: How do you explain the differences between creation by God and creation by scientists?

A: Despite endless arguments about the conflict between faith and science, Christianity does not necessarily see any conflict between these two. Science observes the world to discover how it came to be. The Bible testifies to who created the world and why.

Problems arise when these different tasks start to cross over. When Christians insist that the creation accounts in Genesis 1 and 2 are eyewitness descriptions or meet modern standards of science, they open up the texts to criticism that is not even fair to them. The creation accounts in the Bible testify to the fact that God is the creator of all things. They were meant to be theological, not scientific, writings.

Likewise, some scientists insist that only observed data is true and reliable, and therefore assert that one cannot be scientific and believe that God created the world—or believe in the existence of God at all. That turns science into theology and introduces claims that science is unable to prove, disprove or even discover.

If science pursues the how and faith proclaims the who and why, there is no need for conflict between them. In fact, it is often just the opposite. The more that science discovers about the intricacy, complexity and calibration of the world, the more it testifies to God as the Maker of all things.

Lots of fun...

Joyful Noise Chime Choir

- Starts Wed. Jan. 25, runs for 6-7 weeks
- 5:15 - 5:55 p.m.
- Meet in the music room
- This chime choir is geared for school-aged beginners and families.

Call Sue Graff at 587-6289
or kssgraff@hutchtel.net for
more information.

Faith Lutheran Church
335 Main Street South
Hutchinson, Minnesota 55350

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OUR MISSION IS:
BUILDING FAITH

*"EQUIP THE SAINTS FOR THE WORK OF MINISTRY, FOR BUILDING UP
THE BODY OF CHRIST"*

EPHESIANS 4:12

TO LIVE OUT THAT MISSION, GOD CALLS US TO:

FOLLOW JESUS

ANNOUNCE THE GOSPEL

INVITE ALL PEOPLE

TEACH CHRISTIAN TRUTH

HELP ALL WHO ARE IN NEED



Faith Kidz News

February 2012

First Communion Instruction All 6th Graders—February 12

First communion instruction begins with a required parent and student meeting at 9:15 on February 12 in Greenhouse. Please contact Kacie if you are unable to attend.

You should have received a letter in the mail with more information about this class. If you did not, please let Kacie know so we can get the information to you.

56ers

All 5th and 6th graders are invited to join! 56'ers is every Wednesday from 3:30—5:00. The kids come and play games, have a snack, and talk about real issues they face today. We dive into the Bible to figure out how God wants us to respond to those difficulties. You do not have to be a member at Faith Lutheran to attend so bring your friends too! (There is no need to sign up—just show up!)

Kids can ride bus 19 from school—just let the bus driver know you need to be dropped off at Faith Lutheran.

Keep your eyes open for these UPCOMING EVENTS:

MISSION AWARENESS PROGRAM—FEBRUARY 2

During the two-hour late starts Faith Lutheran, Christ the King, Oak Heights Covenant, and Peace Lutheran team up to lead 2nd—5th graders through different missions projects. We meet at Peace Lutheran at 8:30 and work on the project. We walk the kids to Park Elementary by 10:30 so they can go to school or catch their bus to another school. For February we will be making something to send to some of the soldiers from our congregations as a way of saying “Thank you” for all they are doing! **If your child (ren) would like to participate, please contact Kacie Lange 587-2093.**



**Questions? Please contact
Kacie Lange at 587-2093
kaciel@faithlc.com**

February 2012

FLY PAGE

Faith
Lutheran
Youth
News

This might be the best weekend of your year:

Confirmation Retreat!

Friday-Sunday, February 17-19th @ Green Lake Bible Camp

The annual retreat will be packed with all sorts of awesomeness! There will be great times of learning, playing, worshiping, snow-tubing, singing, dancing, eating, and hanging with friends! This year's theme is "Vocation," as we learn about God's awesome calling for our lives.

See you there!

FLY



The FLY New Year's
Eve EVE Party!!

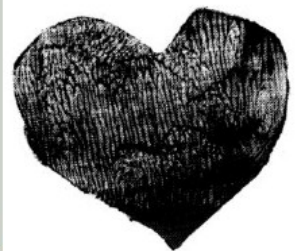
*A child dies from hunger-related causes every 8 to 12 seconds
Globally, 925 million people are hungry
The poor spend most of their money trying not to starve
You can make a difference!*

FLY 30-HOUR Famine

February 11&12

The FLY Ministries will be fasting for 30-hours to raise money for and awareness of starving kids in the world. If you're in high school, consider joining us and making a difference. If you're not a student, consider sponsoring someone who is fasting.

Help save lives!



World Vision's

30
HOUR
FAMINE

Questions? Need more info? Contact Dave @ davidw@faithlc.com