



Faith Matters

July 2015

Starting on July 20, I am privileged to begin a sabbatical that will last until the end of August. The word sabbatical comes from sabbath and, like the Sabbath Day, it is related to rest and learning. Faith Lutheran offers its pastors one month of sabbatical leave for every five years of service. For a variety of reasons, I have not taken any sabbatical time in nearly ten years here, so I am stretching the month to six weeks.

Sabbaticals are best known in the academic world, where tenured professors are released from teaching every seventh year. They often use that time to write books or complete other projects. Sabbaticals are less common in the church—which is why I am so grateful to receive one!—but the purpose is much the same. It offers a break from the weekly routine of church life in order to re-charge and attend to projects that are hard to complete otherwise.

I have a long list of projects I would like to pursue during this time—more like six months' worth, rather than six weeks! I hope to spend a lot of the time reading in areas like the role of the church in addressing public policy, Lutheran history (in preparation for the 500th anniversary of the Lutheran Reformation in 2017 and the 150th anniversary of Faith Lutheran in 2020), and stewardship theology and practice. I may also prepare for publication some Bible studies I have led and consider more effective ways of teaching confirmation. However, in order not to neglect the “sabbath” part of a sabbatical, I may well need to pare all this down to a less ambitious agenda!

Please be aware that, during this sabbatical, I will not be available for any of my usual pastoral duties. Contact the other pastors or Marsha Schmit with any pastoral needs or church matters. I will be at home for much of this time, however, so you may see me around town and very probably at Sunday worship, but I will be “off duty”.

Again, I am so grateful for this gift from you, the congregation of Faith Lutheran Church. I ask for your prayers during this sabbatical, that it may be a fruitful and refreshing time that will return blessings to the church's ministry.

Grace and peace,
Pastor Scott

DATES TO REMEMBER:

JULY 3

Church Office Closed

JULY 5

Community Meal &
Compline

JULY 10-19

Mission Trip to Queens, NY

JULY 18

Mugs & Muffins

JULY 19

Motorcycle Run

JULY 20-24

Vacation Bible School

AUG. 14 - 16

Faith Life Camp

**FaithLife
Camp**

Aug. 14-16, 2015

Mount Carmel Ministries

Registration is open now for the 2015 FaithLife Camp.

Full Brochure:

www.faithlc.com/ministries/faithlife-camps

Brochures are also available at Faith Lutheran Church.

Questions? Call 320-587-2093.

RESERVE YOUR SPOT TODAY WHILE THERE IS STILL

Faith Lutheran's

Outdoor Worship Services

Sundays, May 24 - September 6, 2015
@ 10:10 a.m. in Library Square Park, Hutchinson



Tell your friends, bring a lawn chair, and worship the Lord!
In case of rain, meet in Faith's sanctuary.

First Word @ 8 a.m. will continue in the Sanctuary
There will be no Sunday School or Digging Deeper during the summer.

News from New Hope Mission Society



What the "Share the Love Offering" Did and Could Do through You

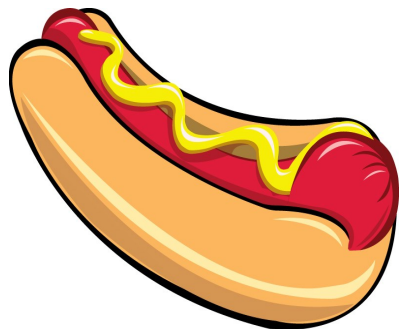
In the Lenten Season this past spring our Women's Friday Bible Study group along with others gave offerings that have made feasible the beginning of a program to train women in India in tailoring and dress making. Start up costs to obtain sewing machines and other materials at the Bishara Center to initiate this effort are in hand.

The New Hope Mission Society is looking for designated gifts to sustain this program. It cannot do this from income already committed to challenging ministries such as the new Bible School. A gift of \$150 would cover one month's expenses. Individuals or groups are invited to consider such support. For more information contact Dorothy Desens, chairperson of the NHMS Board.

Shaliach Bible Institute Begins Second Year

Twenty-five first year students and fifteen second year students have just begun a new school year. Your prayers for these students and all those leading this major effort are encouraged.

See Picture to right.



July Community Meal

This month the Friday Bulletin Assembly Group will be serving a picnic type meal of foot long hotdogs, beans and chips at Faith from 4-6 p.m. on July 5. Come have a bite to eat, visit with a new friend or lend a hand.

music notes

Since the summer months are slow, I thought I'd revisit some of the information I learned while researching Bach last year.

For those music history buffs out there, you'll find you run into the terms Hymn and Chorale. Bach wrote hymns as well as chorales. They're both sung in church and they, by and large, sound similar, especially when played on the organ. So what is the difference? If you're wondering if this is at all relevant, we sing Hymns and Chorales at our own church!

The difference between a hymn and a choral is slightly ambiguous, but perhaps the most distinct difference is the rhythm. Chorales are much more rhythmic, featuring more syncopation and often have more movement from the inner parts. Chorales are also in AAB form. Think of "A Mighty Fortress is Our God." Also, chorales were made famous by Bach and are featured in cantatas, but are not themselves cantatas. Hymns are typically standalone. A cantata is a piece for an orchestra and choir that many composers used as a form for composition. So, Hymns are standalone and less rhythmic. Chorales are more rhythmic, in AAB form, and are featured in cantatas. Cantatas are longer or major pieces written for choir and orchestra.

I'd like to point out this fact: An interesting linkage from Martin Luther to Bach is that Bach was raised in a town where Martin Luther preached, and performed music. In fact, the two attended the same Latin grammar school as boys. According to the records, Luther and Bach were treble singers in the youth chorus at the church, making it very likely that the two stood in the same spot as choir boys. Bach was raised in this cradle of Lutheranism, by a family of musicians. It only seems appropriate that he would become the most important figure in Lutheran music that ever lived.

All best, Mike



Welcome!

Josiah Frusti, New Director of Children & Family Ministry beginning July 6

Josiah Frusti's Introductory Bio

Hello friends and family of Faith Lutheran! My name is Josiah Frusti and, as some of you know, I will be the new Director of Children and Family Ministry at Faith. I am excited to get to know all of you. In the meantime, here is a bit about myself.



I was born in Lansing, MI, the youngest of four children. My parents were both involved in Lutheran education and as such we moved often; I lived in six states over twenty years including Texas and New York. Because we moved so much I was homeschooled through elementary and high school.

Freshman year at Concordia Wisconsin God called me to serve him and I changed my major from Social Work to Youth Ministry and World Missions. During my studies I met a wonderful woman, Brooke. One week after I graduated in May of 2014 we married and moved to Madison, WI. Brooke has served as a 4k teacher and I have worked with adults with disabilities over the past year. One random fact: I am a huge Detroit Lions fan (Brooke is a Packers fan). We look forward to learning more about Faith and the community of Hutchinson.

Christ's blessings, Josiah F.



Q: If a person has to be baptized to be saved, what happens if a baby dies in the delivery room?

A: The death of a newborn is a heart-breaking situation that - thank God! - happens far less often today than in the past. Many emergency baptisms have been administered in hospitals to avoid exactly this situation.

The concern behind this question, however, may reflect a misunderstanding about baptism, one that the Church itself has sometimes fostered. It looks at baptism as a way to get (or even force) God to do something He otherwise wouldn't. It assumes that salvation depends on baptism and God is bound by whether it is done or not. It tends to turn baptism either into a magic spell or a heaven insurance policy that is our ticket past an angry God who would otherwise destroy us.

Salvation, though, depends on God - completely and always. While God has every reason to be angry at this rebellious world, Christ Jesus revealed instead that "God our Savior...desires everyone to be saved and to come to the knowledge of the truth." (I Timothy 2:3-4) Baptism is the means by which God fulfills that desire in the lives of individuals. It was instituted for our sake, not God's, to assure us of forgiveness of sin and new life in Christ, and to adopt us into the family of Christ. Baptism binds us to God's will, not God to our will.

So, if a child tragically dies before baptism, we simply commend him or her into the hands of a gracious God, trusting in His saving will accomplished in Christ. At the same time, we are called to give baptism the highest importance, not as some regulation to be fulfilled, but as the beginning of a life lived in loving, trusting relationship with God our Savior.

Queens, New York Or Bust - FLY Mission Trip - July 10-19

Mission trip here we come!

It's amazing how quickly a countdown goes from feeling so far away to right around the corner. The youth have continued the countdown- 100 days!... 50 days!... 1 month!... and counting. I'm overjoyed, and trying not to be anxious about the crazy amounts of things that can go wrong on a trip across the country.

As the trip grows closer, we look forward to our journey to Queens, New York. This bustling city will be adding 67 young people that are crazy about Jesus. We will be working in nursing homes, kids clubs, VBS camps, and doing service projects within the community. We will also have the opportunity to stop at Times Square and see other New York hot spots.

Although it is fun and exciting as we anticipate our departure on July 10th, I can't help but feel pushed to prayer. My desire for this trip is that as we go, we are not going alone. We want Jesus and the Holy Spirit stirring in New York that we can encounter Him, and use their leading to bring people to know Jesus. Please pray for God's grace to become known, that Jesus would transform lives, that our kids would be changed forever by this experience and desire to know God better (not just for a week), and that we would grow closer as a church.

We appreciate prayers for safety, but please don't let them be your only prayers.

With love and much anticipation, Gladys





Faith Lutheran Church Women News

Thank You's

Thank you to those who brought treats and served the coffee at Library Square on June 7.
The drinks and treats are really enjoyed and appreciated out there.

Thanks also to everyone who displayed their gardens, worked at the luncheon or attended the Garden Tour / Salad Luncheon on June 27. What a wonderful opportunity to spend time with family and friends while enjoying God's beautiful creation and good food.

Calling all Pie Chefs

Locate your favorite recipes and bake your favorite pie for Music-in-the-Park on Monday, July 6.
Bring pies to the church by 4 p.m. or to the park by 6 p.m.
Sign-up sheets can be found outside the church office and outside the sanctuary for those baking and for those willing to serve the pie. *(No cream pie's please)*

Kitchen Cleaning Day

We will be cleaning the Faith Lutheran Church Kitchen on July 14, 9 a.m. - 5 p.m.
Please join us for an hour or two that day for coffee and fellowship as we work together.



Cardboard and Paper Recycling

We are working with McLeod County Solid Waste Management in the recycling of paper and cardboard. We now have a large wire container for cardboard products (cereal boxes, pop cartons, heavier materials).

Please break down these items prior to tossing them in the container.
There are also two 90 gallon containers for paper products (newspapers, magazines, telephone books, etc.). ***No paper towels or plastic please.***

These containers are on the east side of the garage and are available for you to drop things off 24/7. Waste Management will empty these containers monthly and the church will be paid for what they pick up depending on how much is in them.

Proceeds from this project will be administered through the Church in the World Ministry Team.

What a great opportunity to be good stewards of the resources God provides for us!!

Imagine Capital Campaign

The week that this newsletter was compiled was pretty wild around the church. Some 60 young children from Faith and Christ the King attended Vacation Bible School. Another 20 children began another summer of Club 218, the day camp for children in need run by our youth each summer. A large funeral occurred on one day, with an even larger visitation the day before.

Soloists practiced in the music room and meals were prepared in the kitchen.

Ministry teams and the church council met one evening and the Drive-In Diner was scheduled for another, before weather forced a postponement. Many smaller gatherings could be added to the list.



What made it possible for all these ministry efforts to happen in one week? Space! The room available in the sanctuary and Foundation, on the third floor and in the youth space, in the offices and gathering areas was the necessary prerequisite for Faith to reach so many people in so many ways.

And what makes all that space possible? Your generous, steady support of the *Imagine* capital campaign allows us to cover the costs of the building without impinging on our ministry budget. The church has made astounding progress on the mortgage in its first five years. Your continued generous support will keep this space for ministry available and affordable going forward.

Why Give? A Reflection on Biblical Stewardship

At the recent board meeting of the New Hope Mission Society (NHMS), which was founded at Faith and supports a variety of ministries to Muslims, we heard again about the plight of Muslim converts to Christianity. Most often, they lose everything—jobs, family ties, friends and community. Many of them live in poverty beyond our imagining. NHMS provides funding for education and job training, as well as evangelism, because they have virtually nothing to their names.

At least 10% (a tithe) of every dollar given to Faith's General Fund is given away to support efforts like those of NHMS to help people in need here and around the world. The more generous we are, the more funds are available for these efforts.

Jesus said, "From everyone to whom much has been given, much will be required," and thanks to the blessings of this rich land, most of us are in the "much has been given" category. How is God calling you to put the gifts He has given you to work? (See the note about the Share the Love Offering on p. 2 to see what just \$150.00/month could do for poor women in India.) Does your giving reflect what Jesus would "require" of you? In thanks and trust, let's commit to making the best use possible of the treasure God has entrusted to us.

Monthly Financial Update

	Actual YTD 5/22/2015	Budget 2015	Budget Remaining
General Fund Income	310,909.15	762,219.00	451,309.85
General Fund Expenses	337,177.06	762,219.00	425,041.94
General Fund Net Income/Loss	(26,267.91)		
Average weekly giving needed to reach budget		\$14,658.06	
Average monthly giving needed to reach budget		\$63,518.25	

Thrivent Members - Thank you for your participation in the Thrivent Choice Program. As of June 17, 2015, your choice dollars for 2015 have amounted to \$5,434.00. In addition, \$250 Action Grants have been used for the Easter Breakfast and the April and June Community Meals. To designate your dollars for 2015, call 1-800-847-4836 and say "Thrivent Choice Dollars". Thank you for your support.

Thoughts and Prayers

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

Sgt. Jason Gaulke (El Paso, TX - nephew of Alice Fransen)

Andrew Hantge (Navy, Virginia Beach, VA - son of
Marsha Schmit and Robert Hantge)

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



Anthony Settergren (Army National Guard in Croatia
son of Richard and Jean Settergren)

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

Col. Rob Skaar (Duluth Air National Guard) Dave & Marian Skaar)

Faith Lutheran Church

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Remember our Faith
members in Nursing
Homes & Health Care
Centers

Cedar Crest - Cosmos

Patricia Lambert

Cedar Crest - Silver Lake

Nadine Dalin

Harmony River

Millie Blake

Valerie Fimon

Clarence Kulberg

Joanne Olesen

Otto Streseman

Charlie & Harriet Thor

Prairie Senior Cottages

Delores Saar

Prairie View (Hector)

Jerome Lindquist

Woodstone

Deloris Askew

Betty Garberich

Eleanor Lack

Ruth McKay

Lucille Yukel

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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