



Pastors' Page

It is hard to believe that Faith Lutheran has already been using the new building addition for six years, but there is no denying the calendar. That means it is already time for some preventative maintenance to be done.

This summer, cracks in the new section of the church parking lot will be filled and seal coating applied in order to keep it in good shape for several more years. Due to the steady support of many of Faith's members, our Building Maintenance Fund can cover the cost of this project with no effect on the General Fund. It is a great blessing to have money on hand to address needs like this when they arise.

This need for maintenance, however, has also presented Faith with a *great opportunity*. The old, north section of our parking lot has been in terrible shape for many years. Some minimal maintenance has been done on it for safety reasons, but it is truly falling apart. It is space that we need during worship and other large events held here.

Hjerpe Contracting has generously offered to donate the preparation work and road construction firms are in town working on city streets all summer. That means Faith has the chance to pave the north section and unify our parking lot for only \$22,400. The Church Council felt this was an opportunity not to be missed and has approved moving ahead with it.

The problem is that the Building Maintenance Fund is not able to cover the cost of both projects. So the church council is asking members and friends of Faith to consider giving special gifts this month to help make parking at the church safer and more useful. A special envelope for these gifts is included with this newsletter. We do not yet know the exact date when the work will be done, but it will be sometime this summer. The sooner such gifts can be received, the better.

The council considered whether spending this money is wise, given that we hope to build Phase II of the building project on part of the area that will be paved. That project, however, is unlikely to begin for at least 7-10 years. That is the typical life-span of asphalt before it needs maintenance. The council felt that having a safe, structurally sound parking lot for that length of time—and possibly longer—was a good investment that will benefit the church.

If you have questions or concerns about these projects, please talk to me, to Wade Eastman, our congregational president, or any member of the church council. *Thank you* in advance for whatever gifts you are able to give toward this important project.

Grace and peace,
Pastor Scott