

FAITH NEWSLETTER

August 2004 / September 2004

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

I love the Psalms. I love the honest emotion of the writers. They speak from the heart; they don't hold back.



Many of us wouldn't speak to God the way the psalmists do because we'd be afraid of offending God. But God has tough skin. He isn't offended by our heartfelt emotions; rather, He would be offended if we weren't honest with Him.

In modern parlance, the Lord loves it when we "keep it real." Real emotion. Honest confession. Heartfelt contrition. Authentic worship. Spontaneous praise.

The Psalms are oozing with real spirituality for people who are in touch with a real, living, loving God. Can your heart relate to any of these thoughts?

"As the deer pants for streams of water, so my soul pants for You, O God. My soul thirsts for God, for the living God" (Psalm 42:1-2).

"My God, my God, why have You forsaken me? Why are You so far from saving me, so far from the words of my groaning? O my God, I cry out by day, but You do not answer, by night, and am not silent" (Psalm 22:1-2).

"When I kept silent, my bones wasted away through my groaning all day long. For day and night Your hand was heavy upon me; my strength was sapped as in the heat of summer. Then I acknowledged my sin to You and did not cover up my iniquity. I said, 'I will confess my transgressions to the Lord' – and You forgave the guilt of my sin" (Psalm 32:3-5).

"Praise the Lord, O my soul; all my inmost being, praise His holy name. Praise the Lord, O my soul, and forget not all His benefits – who forgives all your sins and heals all your diseases, who redeems your life from the pit and crowns you with love and compassion, who satisfies your desires with good things so that your youth is renewed like the eagle's" (Psalm 10:1-5)

The second service is coming soon, and it will provide another opportunity for us to be honest with God. God will graciously come to us in both services and invite us to respond from the heart. Real emotion. Honest confession. Heartfelt contrition. Authentic worship. And spontaneous praise.

My prayer is for both services to be *FILLED* with genuine followers of Christ – people who have been forever changed by the brutally honest crucifixion and resurrection of the Christ.

May our lives of worship never be fake or half-hearted, but reflect the all-out authenticity of the psalmists. With the psalmists we will praise God from the heart, from hearts that have been forever changed.

Your Friend and His,

Pastor Mike Gudgel

In and Around Faith Church

LWML

We will learn about the upcoming events for Fall and Winter when we have a Board meeting in early August. Each church in our district is participating in the “Mother’s Touch Project” by contributing special gift boxes of baby items to be sent to needy Russian mothers.

Our Fall Rally will be on September 25th at St. Paul Church. All ladies are invited.

Grace Scott

Faith Seniors

Our next meeting will be on September 2nd at noon in the Parish Hall. See you then.

Grace Scott

New Worship Service

By now you probably have seen or heard that you will be able to choose from two Sunday Worship services. The worship schedule will remain as it is throughout August, but will change the week after the annual Church Picnic. Starting on September 26th, worship will begin on Sundays at 8:30 AM and 11:00 AM and Sunday School and Bible Study will be held each week from 9:45 to 10:45.

Praise God for providing us with a growing church and the many opportunities we have to worship and serve Him.

Ladies Aid

We are extending an invitation to ALL Ladies of Faith. Please join us on Thursday September 2nd at 7:00 PM in the Parish Hall. Come to the meeting and be a part of enjoyable Christian fellowship and share your ideas as we make plans for our fall and Winter events.

Kathleen Nowak
Membership Chairperson

Thank You!!!

Faith Ladies Aid has made it possible to replace the church back door and to refurbish the washrooms in the Parish Hall. We thank you for your generous donation.

Youth Gathering

As this edition of the Newsletter is being printed our youth are just returning from the National LCMS Youth Gathering in Florida.

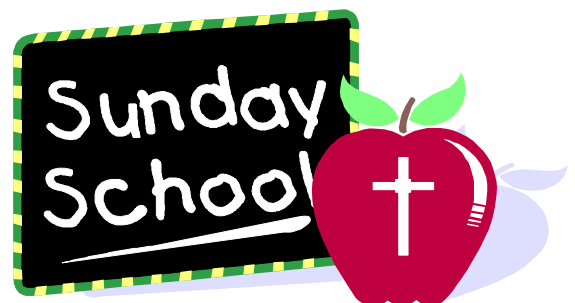
We look forward to hearing about their adventures and what new insights they have garnered. The next newsletter will feature their views of the youth gathering.

Sunday School

Sunday School will be starting on September 26th which is the Sunday after the Church Picnic. We look forward once again to providing this great opportunity for our young children to learn about God.

We are in need of a Sunday School teacher. Please consider serving in this very important role. Working with children and leading them to Jesus is a great joy.

For more information please contact Pastor Gudgel, Bill Weems or Barb Tebo.



Schedule of August 2004 / September 2004 Events

<u>Date</u>	<u>Time</u>	<u>August Event</u>
1	9:00 AM	Worship / Communion
	10:15 AM	Adult Bible Class
7	9:00 AM	Food Pantry Distribution
8	9:00 AM	Worship / Children's Msg.
	10:15 AM	Adult Bible Class
15	9:00 PM	Worship / Communion
	10:15 AM	Adult Bible Class
21	9:00 AM	Food Pantry Distribution
22	9:00 AM	Worship / Children's Msg.
	10:15 AM	Adult Bible Class
29	9:00 AM	Worship / Communion
	10:15 AM	Adult Bible Class

Elders

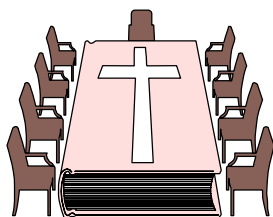
Just to remind everyone that an elder can help you if you can't reach Pastor.

The list of elder's care is as follows:

A – Ernst	Ed Neaves	424-3522
Fagan – Karaus	Frank Oslakovic	599-6675
Katula – Litke	Gene Osmanski	425-7192
Luer – Osmanski	Bill Weems	599-4063
Ossman – Sibrava	Alden Ketchum	422-7482
Skopec – Z	Richard Clark	422-0027

Weekly Meetings

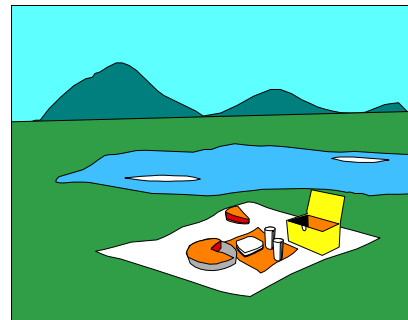
AA Groups	M, F- 6:00 PM - Sat - 8:00 AM
Brownies	(Second / Fourth) Tu – 3:30 PM
Crafters	(First & Third) M - 7:15 PM
ALANON	Tu - 8:00 PM
Choir	W - 6:30 PM
Seniors	(First) - Th. - 12:00 PM
Ladies Aid	(First) - Th. - 7:00 PM



<u>Date</u>	<u>Time</u>	<u>September Event</u>
4	9:00 AM	Food Pantry Distribution
5	9:00 AM	Worship / Communion
	10:15 AM	Adult Bible Class
12	9:00 AM	Worship / Children's Msg.
	10:15 AM	Adult Bible Class
18	9:00 AM	Food Pantry Distribution
19	9:00 AM	Worship / Communion
	11:00 AM	Worship at Wolfe Refuge
	11:45 AM	Church Picnic begins
26	8:30 AM	Worship / Children's Msg.
	9:45 AM	Adult Bible Class
		Sunday School
	11:00 AM	Worship / Children's Msg.

Church Picnic

Plan on



attending the Church picnic at Wolfe Wildlife Refuge on September 19th.

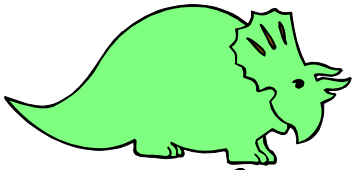
All are welcome to join in the fun. We begin the picnic with our 11:00 AM outdoor church service at Wolfe Wildlife Refuge 109th and Laramie.

After the service we will enjoy grilled hot dogs donated and grilled by Leroy and Anne O'Neal. Please bring a dish for the common table, your utensils and plates along with your appetite and a fun attitude.

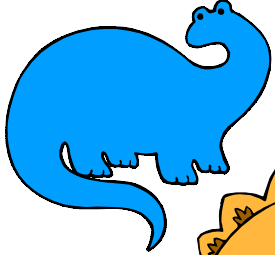
Frank and Celeste Oslakovic will provide the soda, while Ed Neaves lends his dulcet tone to calling bingo. There will also be games for the children.

Vacation Bible School

Dinosaurs, Creation & You!

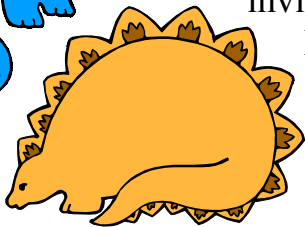


Dinosaurs, Noah's ark and the creation of the world fascinate everyone. It has been said dinosaurs evolved millions of years before man -- right? **Not!!!!**

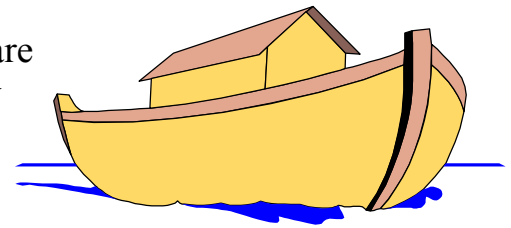


Come and learn the true story of creation. All adults are invited to bring a child or children to Faith's VBS.

Beginning Monday August 2nd until Friday August 6th, we will be having fun learning about dinosaurs and God. VBS will begin at 9:00 AM and end at noon.



Even if you can't find a child to bring – all adults are welcome to come and hear some unusual facts you may not know!



Donations of cookies are always welcome, as well as, volunteers to teach or just help us out.

**Fun! Songs! Food! Games! Food! Lessons!
Food! Crafts! Fun! Free!!!**

For more information call:
Diane Osmanski
708-425-7192

