

# FAITH NEWSLETTER

October 2008 / November 2008

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Dear Saints of God,

There are many events and activities happening this fall at Faith Lutheran Church, as the pages of this newsletter demonstrate. The most important thing that happens here is when the Lord gathers us every week for the Divine Service.

There are many reasons not to come to church every week. You may have work or other commitments. You may prefer to relax and spend time with your family. On Sunday morning as you're deciding what to do with your time, you might be asking yourself, Why should I go to church? There are three areas in which the Lord blesses you through the Divine Service:

## 1. Your Life

The main reason to come to church every week is that you receive gifts from the Lord that are found nowhere else. In the Divine Service, the Lord serves you! He gives you His forgiveness, His body and His blood.

Through these gifts, the Lord makes you holy and gives you the gift of eternal life. Do you want to be sure of your salvation? Come to the Divine Service and hear the Lord say to you, "You are forgiven, go in peace!"

## 2. Your Congregation

In your baptism, the Lord made you a part of the body of Christ. The Lord has connected you to other people through His Name and His Body and Blood.

He gathers us together every week to encourage one another. You may have had a wonderful week, and this is a time to join with your brothers and sisters in Christ in giving thanks. You may have had a difficult week, and need the support of others. And it's not just about you. Some people in the congregation need the care and concern only you can give!

## 3. Your Community

The gifts you receive in the Divine Service do not stop with you, but flow through you to everyone else in your life: your family, your friends, your coworkers, your neighbors.

Do you find it difficult to forgive others? Are you looking for the fruit of the Spirit in your life: love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness and self-control? In the Divine Service, you receive these gifts in abundance. They are here for you, for free!

You may think that struggling to come to church is a new issue. Actually, this was faced even in New Testament times. The Epistle to the Hebrews encourages all of us with these words:

"And let us consider how we may spur one another on toward love and good deeds. Let us not give up meeting together, as some are in the habit of doing, but let us encourage one another—and all the more as you see the Day approaching." (Hebrews 10:24-25)

God's richest blessings,

Pastor Mark Birkholz

# In and Around Faith Church

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## Ladies Aid

A downpour of rain did not dampen the enthusiasm of our ladies as they started to make plans for the Fall Bazaar. The date is set for Tuesday, November 11<sup>th</sup>. The Chili lunch is from 11:30AM – 12:30 PM. The cost is \$3.00.

The Pork Roast dinner is \$9.00 for adults and \$3.50 for children ages 4 – 12. The serving times are 5:00 PM and 6:30 PM. Tickets will be available on several Sundays prior to the dinner. Tickets must be purchased before the event.

Again we are asking for homemade crafts, white elephant items, and bakery goods. These items will help make our event successful. We hold a bazaar for the benefit of our church and we appreciate the enthusiasm you can give.

Don't forget to mark your calendar for the next meeting on Oct. 2nd at 7:00 PM

Kathleen Nowak

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## Special Project

The voter's decided at the September meeting to establish a special project fund to provide for sealing the surface and striping lines in the parking lot, and repairing cracks in the church basement foundation to stop the leaks. A goal of \$5,000 to be reached by year-end was approved.

You may use the special project envelopes that will be available on the Literature Table in the Narthex or any envelope marked for the special project along with you name or church envelop number.

Thank you for your support.

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## LWML

Three large plastic bags of empty pill bottles have been delivered to Circuit. Thank you to everyone who gave the bottles and also the baby items which will taken to the October Convention.

Grace Scott

## Food Pantry Sunday

October 5th has been designated Food Pantry Sunday. Our food pantry is in need of food. When you come to church please bring a bag of groceries or whatever you can afford.

Our families in need have greatly increased. Your help will be greatly appreciated.

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## Jack - O' – Lantern Jamboree

The Jack-o'-Lantern Jamboree has returned and will be held on Friday, October 31<sup>st</sup> from 6:00 - 8:30 p.m. This is an opportunity to serve our community by providing fun, safe activities for kids and to introduce ourselves to our neighbors. There will be games, crafts, an outdoor maze, and much more. Here's what you can do to help:

- ❑ Invite families with children to come (your neighbors, grandchildren, etc.).
- ❑ Volunteer to help out at the Jamboree with set up, running games or clean-up.
- ❑ Donate candy, decorations, snacks and craft materials.

Watch for more info in the weeks ahead or call the church office at 708-424-1059 or Pastor at 708-857-7256.

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## Something New

**ATTENTION ALL SUNDAY SCHOOL AGED CHILDREN!**

Come join us for "An Evening with Jesus".

Thursday, November 20th from 6:00 PM until approx. 7:30 PM we will be meeting in the Parish Hall for Bible stories, crafts, songs and refreshments. If you are between the ages of 3 years and 12 years, you are invited to an exciting and fun evening. Bring a friend so we can all learn about Jesus together.

We hope to continue this event once a month on the 3rd Thursday. Watch for more details and plans for December.

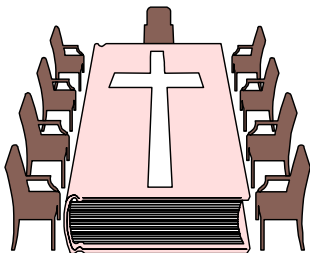
# Schedule of Oct. / Nov.. 2008 Events

<u>Date</u>	<u>Time</u>	<u>Oct. Event</u>
4	9:00 AM	Food Pantry Distribution
5	9:00 AM	<b>Worship / Communion</b>
	10:15 AM	<b>Adult Bible Class</b>
12	9:00 AM	<b>Worship / Children's Msg.</b>
	10:15 AM	<b>Adult Bible Class</b>
18	9:00 AM	Food Pantry Distribution
19	9:00 AM	<b>Worship / Communion</b>
	10:15 AM	<b>Adult Bible Class</b>
26	9:00 AM	<b>Worship / Children's Msg.</b>
	10:15 AM	<b>Adult Bible Class</b>

<u>Date</u>	<u>Time</u>	<u>Nov. Event</u>
1	9:00 AM	Food Pantry Distribution
2	9:00 AM	<b>Worship / Communion</b>
	10:15 AM	<b>Adult Bible Class</b>
9	9:00 AM	<b>Worship / Children's Msg.</b>
	10:15 AM	<b>Adult Bible Class</b>
15	9:00 AM	Food Pantry Distribution
16	9:00 AM	<b>Worship / Communion</b>
	10:15 AM	<b>Adult Bible Class</b>
23	9:00 AM	<b>Worship / Children's Msg.</b>
	10:15 AM	<b>Adult Bible Class</b>
26	7:00 PM	<b>Thanksgiving Eve Worship / Communion</b>
30	9:00 AM	<b>Worship / Communion Adult Bible Class</b>

## Weekly Meetings

AA Groups	M & F - 6:00 PM
	Sat - 8:00 AM
Bible Study	Fri. - 10:30 AM
Girl Scouts	Tu - 3:30 PM F - 6:30 PM
ALANON	Tu - 7:00 PM
Choir	W - 6:30 PM
Ladies Aid	(First) - Th. - 7:00 PM
Adventure	(First) - Sun. - 7:00 PM
Crew	



## Reformation Celebration

Mark your calendar for Nov. 1<sup>st</sup> at 3:00 PM. Northern Illinois District – LCMS and our circuit are presenting a festival of music and praise in thanks to God for His many blessings to His church, especially focusing on the Lutheran Reformation and all Saints Day.

St. Paul – Oak Lawn is proud to serve as host for this event. We expect the entire event to last approximately two hours, including a brief intermission. Refreshments will follow.

Advance tickets are not necessary; however, a free-will offering will be received.

Our featured guest is Rev. Clifford “Hannibal” Frederich in the character of Martin Luther.

*Hymns of Hope and Comfort*, a concert of pipe organ and instrumental music will be presented by St. Paul director of music, Jonathan Swett.

Also included is The Southwest Lutheran Chorus, directed by Ryan Lockhart and accompanied by Betty Baker.

*The Good Shepherd Flute Choir* will be joined by Flutes Unlimited; Joy Ausec & Anna Belle O’Shea, Directors.

# October / November Elders, Ushers & Lay Readers

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**Worship      9:00 AM Sunday**

- Oct. 5**      Alden Ketchum  
Ed Neaves  
Nick Trojanowski  
Glenn Werth
- Oct. 12**      Richard Clark  
Howard Johnson  
Bob Stegmann
- Oct. 19**      Bill Weems  
Frank Oslakovic  
Mark Trojanowski  
Elise Trojanowski
- Oct. 26**      Gene Osmanski  
Dory Moeller  
A.J. Bray

**Lay Readers      9:00 AM Sunday**

- Oct. 5**      Ed Neaves
- Oct. 12**      Debbie Hochgesang
- Oct. 19**      Bill Weems
- Oct. 26**      Gene Osmanski

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**Our College Students**

College students love to get mail and hear from home. So here are the addresses of our college kids.

Christina Trojanowski  
c/o Augustana College  
639 38<sup>th</sup> Street      Mail Box 2314  
Rock Island, Illinois 61201-2296

Brian Weems  
824 Green Brier Rd.  
De Kalb, Illinois 60115

Colleen Weems  
c/o Concordia University  
7400 Augusta St.  
Gross Hall  
River Forest, Illinois 60305

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**Worship      9:00 AM Sunday**

- Nov. 2**      Gene Osmanski  
Frank Oslakovic  
Glenn Werth  
Mark Trojanowski
- Nov. 9**      Alden Ketchum  
Gail Henson  
Mary Slepski
- Nov. 16**      Ed Neaves  
Bill Weems  
Dory Moeller  
Howard Johnson
- Nov. 23**      Richard Clark  
Bob Stegman  
A.J. Bray
- Nov. 26**      Richard Clark  
Ed Neaves  
Howard Johnson  
Glenn Werth
- Nov. 30**      Gene Osmanski  
Frank Oslakovic  
Gail Henson  
Mary Slepski

**Lay Readers      9:00 AM Sunday**

- Nov. 2**      Mark Trojanowski
- Nov. 9**      Elise Trojanowski
- Nov. 16**      Ed Neaves
- Nov. 23**      Nick Trojanowski
- Nov. 30**      Gene Osmanski

