

FAITH NEWSLETTER

October / November 2010

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,



It's hard to believe that my son is ten months old. By the time the next newsletter comes out he will have had his first birthday.

In some ways it's hard to watch him grow, knowing that he will never be this age again. But it's also exciting to watch him continue to learn and grow and explore the world around him. Many other parents have warned me to watch out when Zachary starts to walk and talk, because I'll be exhausted chasing after him and answering endless questions.

Honestly, I'm looking forward to being able to have a conversation with my son, to play games and sports with him, and to take him camping. I'm excited about all the joy that his growth and maturity will bring, and how much deeper our relationship will be.

Our Christian life is one of growth and maturing as well. And we never stop growing and maturing throughout our life. As Christ feeds us, our church grows, not just numerically, but spiritually.

Unfortunately some people are content to stop growing and to stay at a certain age or stage of development in their Christian life. Take a look at your life, and ask yourself how you are continuing to grow as a Christian. Have you stopped growing? Consider the following "growth chart" and see where there is room to grow in your spiritual life:

Being fed every week at the Divine Service

Learning through Bible Class

Spending time with the Lord every day in prayer and meditation

Giving generously (tithes, ten percent) from what the Lord has given you

Serving your neighbors through acts of mercy

Coming for private confession and absolution

All of these are marks of maturity and ways the Lord works in and through us to keep us growing in faith.

It's easier to stay the same "spiritual age", but it's much more exciting to keep growing and learning. What's more, God calls you to continue to grow in your faith.

"And [Jesus Christ] gave the apostles, the prophets, the evangelists, the shepherds and teachers, to equip the saints for the work of ministry, for building up the body of Christ, until we all attain to the unity of the faith and of the knowledge of the Son of God, to mature manhood, to the measure of the stature of the fullness of Christ, so that we may no longer be children, tossed to and fro by the waves and carried about by every wind of doctrine, by human cunning, by craftiness in deceitful schemes. Rather, speaking the truth in love, we are to grow up in every way into him who is the head, into Christ, from whom the whole body, joined and held together by every joint with which it is equipped, when each part is working properly, makes the body grow so that it builds itself up in love." (Ephesians 4:11-16; see also Hebrews 5:11 – 6:12)

Happy growing

Pastor Mark Birkholz

In and Around Faith Church

Ladies Aid

Our Ladies enthusiastically had their fall meeting to make plans for the annual Christmas Bazaar. On Tuesday, Nov. 2nd from 11:00 AM – 12:30 PM we will have the Chili lunch.

The pork roast dinner will have two seatings, one at 5:00 pm and the other at 6:30 PM. Tickets will need to be purchased ahead of time at a cost of \$9.00 for adults and \$4.00 for children.

We will need bakery items, white elephant items, craft items and Christmas items to sell. Further information will be in the Sunday bulletins. Your help is appreciated as this event is not only a fund raiser for our church, but a day of fellowship. Thank you for your support.

At our last meeting we welcomed Lynne Trojanowski as a new member. All ladies of “Faith” are welcomed. Our next meeting is Thursday, October 7th at 7:00 pm.

Membership Chairman Kathleen Nowak

Evening with Jesus

Calling all kids ages 3 through 5th grade!

Are you ready for our Thursday night fun?

Come join us on October 21st at 6:00 pm – 7:30 pm in the Parish Hall. We will be learning the parable of the Sower from Matthew 13:13.

Bring a friend! We like a crowd.

Weekly Communion

Beginning this Advent, we plan to give you the opportunity to receive the Lord’s body and blood in Holy Communion every Sunday. In this way the Lord will bless us with these saving gifts every week. Offering the Lord’s Supper every Sunday is consistent with the historic practice of the church and the teachings of the Lutheran Confessions. This information was presented and discussed at our September Voters’ Meeting. If you have any questions or concerns, please contact Pastor Birkholz or one of the Elders.

Advent Services

The new church year begins with the season of Advent. This year Advent begins on Sunday, November 28. We will have midweek services this year on Wednesday evenings at 7:00 pm, beginning on December 1. We will use the Service of Light from Evening Prayer, and our theme hymn will be, “The Night will Soon be Ending” (LSB 337).

Thanksgiving Service

We will observe Thanksgiving this year again with a special Divine Service on Wednesday, November 24 at 7:00 pm. Please join us to give thanks to the Lord for all of His blessings to us.

New Addresses

Lloyd Peterson
C/o Linda Peterson
738 Bluff St. Apt.102
Carol Stream, IL 60188
630-456-4663

Randy Peterson
C/o Tami Oddo
1316 Coldspring Rd.
Carol Stream, IL 60188
630-213-1630

Alma Rissky
Concord Nursing and Rehab
9401 S. Ridgeland Ave. Apt. 37B
Oak Lawn, IL 60453
(Please continue to send mail c/o Laurie Reyna)

Grace Scott
1220 Village Dr. Apt.123C
Arlington Heights, IL 60004
847-253-5152

First Fridays Family Fun!

Beginning in November, the first Friday evening of each month will be a time for family fun and fellowship. Whether you’re a family of five or a family of one, you are invited to join us. Watch more information on November 5 in the weeks to come.

Schedule of October / November 2010 Events

<u>Date</u>	<u>Time</u>	<u>October Event</u>
2	9:00 AM	Food Pantry Distribution
3	9:00 AM	Worship / Communion
	10:15 AM	Adult Bible Class
10	9:00 AM	Worship
	10:15 AM	Adult Bible Class
16	9:00 AM	Food Pantry Distribution
17	9:00 AM	Worship / Communion
	10:15 AM	Adult Bible Class
19	1:00 PM	Parish Hall Divine Service
24	9:00 AM	Worship
	10:15 AM	Adult Bible Class
31	9:00 AM	Worship / Communion
	10:15 AM	Adult Bible Class

Weekly Meetings

Evening with Jesus	3rd Thurs. 6:00 PM
Afternoon Worship	2nd Tues. 1:00 PM
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 - 7:30 PM
Ladies Aid	(First) - Th. - 7:00 PM
Adventure	(First) – Sun. –7:00 PM

Homecoming Sunday

Sunday, October 17 will be Homecoming Sunday. We're going to make a special effort to invite back to Faith folks who have been away from us recently. We will have a special homecoming celebration from 3:00p – 6:00p at Worthbrook Park (89th Place and Ridgeland), which will include food, games and fellowship. There will be touch football and bags, as well as relay races and games for the children. Bratwurst, hot dogs and drinks will be provided; please sign up to bring a side dish or dessert. The cost is \$5 for adults and \$3 for children age 3-12. Tickets are on sale Sunday, October 3. Seating will be limited, so you may wish to bring a lawn chair with you.

<u>Date</u>	<u>Time</u>	<u>November Event</u>
6	9:00 AM	Food Pantry Distribution
7	9:00 AM	Worship / Communion
	10:15 AM	Adult Bible Class
14	9:00 AM	Worship
	10:15 AM	Congregation Meeting
16	1:00 PM	Parish Hall Divine Service
20	9:00 AM	Food Pantry Distribution
21	9:00 AM	Worship / Communion
	10:15 AM	Adult Bible Class
24	7:00 PM	Thanksgiving Eve
		Worship / Communion
28	9:00 AM	Worship
	10:15 AM	Adult Bible Class

Senior Worship Services

Pastor Birkholz will be leading services at Emeritus Senior Living of Burr Ridge (formerly Brighton Gardens), where Betty Baker resides, on Weds. October 13 and 27 at 10:30 am.

He will also be conducting services at Tinley Court, where Hertha Fahlberg lives, on Weds. October 13 and November 24 at 3:30 pm.

New Member

Derrick Jimenez became a member of our congregation by the Rite of Confirmation on August 8. Derrick and his wife Danielle (nee Miller) have a son, Deangelo, who was baptized at Faith on June 27. The Jimenez family live in Chicago Ridge, and Derrick works for Redbox.



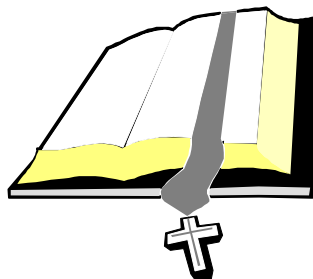
Oct. / Nov. Elders, Ushers & Lay Readers

Oct. Worship 9:00 AM Sunday

Oct. 3	Frank Oslakovic Gene Osmanski Nick Trojanowski Mark Trojanowski
Oct. 10	Richard Clark Glen Werth Ray Bennett
Oct. 17	Ed Neaves Bill Weems Mary Slepski Gail Henson
Oct. 24	Gene Osmanski A.J. Bray Howard Johnson
Oct. 31	Bill Weems Frank Oslakovic Ray Bennett Glen Werth

Lay Readers 9:00 AM Sunday

Oct. 3	Nick Trojanowski
Oct. 10	Ray Bennett
Oct. 17	Jim Kramer
Oct. 24	Gene Osmanski
Oct. 31	Bill Weems
Nov. 7	Ed Neaves
Nov. 14	Mark Trojanowski
Nov. 21	Debbi Hochgesang
Nov. 28	Ray Bennett



Nov. Worship 9:00 AM Sunday

Nov. 7	Ed Neaves Richard Clark Mark Trojanowski Nick Trojanowski
Nov. 14	Gene Osmanski Howard Johnson A.J. Bray
Nov. 21	Frank Oslakovic Glen Werth Mary Slepski Gail Henson
Nov. 24	Ed Neaves Richard Clark Gene Osmanski Glen Werth
Nov. 28	Bill Weems Alden Ketchum Howard Johnson

All Saints Day

The Festival of All Saints and the Commemoration of the Faithful Departed will be observed at Faith on November 7 this year. During our Divine Service we will give thanks for those whom the Lord has made saints through Holy Baptism, and remember with thanksgiving the saints whom the Lord has called to His holy presence.

This year we will specifically give thanks by name for:

Zachary Michael Birkholz (12/20/09)
Nathan Tyler Woods (2/21/10)
Mary Maxine Dwyer (4/4/10)
Deangelo Derrick Jimenez (6/27/10)
Emily Lynn Johnson (10/17/10)

We will also commemorate these saints:

Joyce Marie Green (2/5/10)
James Henry Hendler (6/9/10)
Mary Maxine Dwyer (8/3/10)
Kenneth Philip Breitbarth (8/26/10)
Michelle Marie Vaughan (9/15/10)

Following the service, we will have a special brunch for these families. Please watch for more information in the weeks to come.