

# FAITH NEWSLETTER

August 2008 / September 2008

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Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,



The pages of this newsletter tell the story of our community – where we've been and what lies ahead. This newsletter is one way that the Lord draws us together in supporting and encouraging one another. Take a moment and see how you can serve the Lord and the rest of the community in the weeks ahead.

The Lord has joined us together within His body, the church. We are all very different people. We come from different backgrounds and share many different interests. We have one thing in common, though, and that is our Lord Jesus Christ.

Our focus has been and will continue to be our *Life Together* within the community of the church. We have started to look at these issues, and will continue to do so throughout the rest of summer and into the fall, particularly in the Divine Service and in Bible Class.

## The Divine Service

Our *Life Together* begins with the Lord and what He does to make us His people. We've seen this in the gospel lessons for the past several weeks: Our Lord **purchases** us (July 27), **satisfies** us (Aug. 3), and **calms** our fears (Aug. 10). In the weeks to come we will see our Lord **includes** the outsiders (Aug 17), **builds** our community (Aug. 24), **calls** us to follow Him (Aug. 31), **searches** out the lost (Sept. 7), and **forgives** us (Sept. 14). What the Lord does for us does not stop with us. His gifts flow through us to the rest of the community, ultimately drawing others in to be a part of His church.

## Bible Class

This August we're taking a look at the relationship between pastor and people and how the Lord uses both together to give and receive His gifts, starting with what the Lord does in ordination.

Moving forward into September and beyond, we will be studying the Divine Service. What happens on Sunday morning is the center of our *Life Together*.

Our Lord...

- **gathers** us together by the Name He put on us in our baptism,
- **forgives** our sins and rebuilds our broken community,
- **joins** our voices together in songs of praise,
- **teaches** us how to live together,
- **receives** our gifts so that together we can help those in need,
- **feeds** us and draws us together with His very body and blood,
- **sends** us out with new life,

In the weeks ahead, I will do my best to visit all of you. One purpose of these meetings will be to see what unique gifts the Lord has given you, and how He might have best use of them to care for those within our community and to draw others to share in our *Life Together*.

Pastor Mark Birkholz

# In and Around Faith Church

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## Vacation Bible School

We had a very successful Vacation Bible School. Thirty-one children attended this year. On their Friendship Trek, they learned that Jesus, our Friend, reaches out, cares, shares, gives gifts, and most of all loves us. The children participated in Bible lessons, songs, crafts, treats and games. They all learned a lot and they all agreed the water day was a big splash.

The success our Bible class depends on the wonderful volunteers. Thanks and blessings go to the following caring people:

Mark, Lynne and the Trojanowski family who distributed fliers around the neighborhood.

Barb Tebo and Pastor Simpson who taught the children. Samantha Newton who taught the crafts.

Christina and Elise Trojanowski who ran the games, the water day and helped out in many other ways.

Brittany Rheinwald who endeared herself to the younger set by helping Barb Tebo.

Ed Neaves and Louise DeVries who ran the registration.

A.J. Bray who helped with the games and took charge of the candy guess.

Anna O'Neal, Shirley Burkett, Arlene Banks and Erma Johnson took care of the cookies and treats which we know the kids love.

You all know I couldn't have done this without you !!

Celeste Oslakovic  
Director

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## New Pastor

Pastor Mark Birkholz can be reached by calling the Church Office at 708-424-1059 or the Parsonage at 708-857-7256.

## Faith Ladies Aid

Come join us at our meeting on Sept. 4<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 PM. All ladies of Faith are welcome. Be prepared for good fellowship and conversation.

We will be making plans for our upcoming season, including the Fall Bazaar. Your input is always welcome.

For more information contact:

Kathleen Nowak  
Membership Chairman

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## LWML

In August, we will begin to gather the following items:

Baby wipes  
Baby Shampoo  
Bath Wash  
Baby Lotion  
Diaper Cream

These items will be taken to the October Convention and given to Care Net Pregnancy Centers in Wood Dale, Glen Ellyn and Downers Grove.

There will be a collection box in the Narthex for these items

Thank you!

Grace Scott

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## Cross

Take a drive past our cross at night. The lights are doing their job by putting a nice glow on the cross.

Also, soon we will surround the cross base with lovely brickwork and when weather permits we will plant flowers to help beautify this great addition to Faith Church.

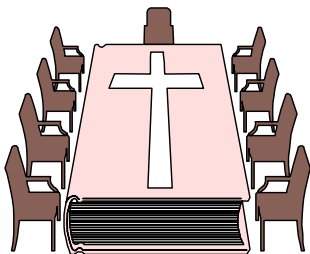


# Schedule of Aug. / Sept. 2008 Events

<u>Date</u>	<u>Time</u>	<u>Aug. Event</u>
2	9:00 AM	Food Pantry Distribution
3	9:00 AM	<b>Worship / Communion</b>
	10:15 AM	<b>Adult Bible Class</b>
10	9:00 AM	<b>Worship / Children's Msg.</b>
	10:15 AM	<b>Adult Bible Class</b>
16	9:00 AM	Food Pantry Distribution
17	9:00 AM	<b>Worship / Communion</b>
	10:15 AM	<b>Adult Bible Class</b>
24	9:00 AM	<b>Worship / Children's Msg.</b>
	10:15 AM	<b>Adult Bible Class</b>
31	9:00 AM	<b>Worship / Communion</b>
	10:15 AM	<b>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	



<u>Date</u>	<u>Time</u>	<u>Sept. Event</u>
6	9:00 AM	Food Pantry Distribution
7	9:00 AM	<b>Worship / Communion</b>
	10:15 AM	<b>Adult Bible Class</b>
14	9:00 AM	<b>Worship / Children's Msg.</b>
	10:15 AM	<b>Adult Bible Class</b>
20	9:00 AM	Food Pantry Distribution
21	9:00 AM	<b>Worship / Communion</b>
	10:15 AM	<b>Adult Bible Class</b>
28	9:00 AM	<b>Worship / Children's Msg.</b>
	10:15 AM	<b>Adult Bible Class</b>

## Live and Learn and Pass It On

I've learned that the best classroom is at the feet of an elderly person. Age 47

I've learned that I can always pray for someone when I don't have the strength to help in other ways. Age 76

I've learned that we should be glad that God doesn't give us everything we ask for. Age 18

I've learned that the Lord didn't do it all in one day. What makes me think I can? Age 46

I've learned that I wouldn't feel eighty-five years old if I didn't look in the mirror. Age 85

I've learned that one of the best things you can do for your children is to introduce them to books. Age 30

I've learned that children follow examples, not advice. Age 62

I've learned first graders are the only ones who think it's neat when their teeth fall out. Age 25

I've learned that saying "hi" to somebody today can result in a new friend tomorrow. Age 18

I've learned that old age is not a defeat, but a victory, not a punishment but a privilege. Age 79

I've learned that when you have problems with your VCR, call your 5 year old grandson. Age 73

Compiled by H. Jackson Brown, Jr.

# August / September Elders, Ushers & Lay Readers

**Worship      9:00 AM Sunday**

**Aug. 3**      Gene Osmanski  
                  Ed Neaves  
                  Nick Trojanowski  
                  Glenn Werth

**Aug. 10**      Alden Ketchum  
                  Howard Johnson  
                  Bob Stegmann

**Aug. 17**      Bill Weems  
                  Frank Oslakovic  
                  Christina Trojanowski  
                  Elise Trojanowski

**Aug. 24**      Richard Clark  
                  Dory Moeller  
                  A.J. Bray

**Aug. 31**      Gene Osmanski  
                  Frank Oslakovic  
                  Glenn Werth  
                  Mark Trojanowski

**Lay Readers      9:00 AM Sunday**

**Aug. 3**      Gene Osmanski

**Aug. 10**      Debbie Hochgesang

**Aug. 17**      Bill Weems

**Aug. 24**      Ed Neaves

**Aug. 31**      Mark Trojanowski

**Worship      9:00 AM Sunday**

**Sept. 7**      Alden Ketchum  
                  Ed Neaves  
                  Gail Henson  
                  Mary Slepiski

**Sept. 14**      Richard Clark  
                  Mark Trojanowski  
                  Dory Moeller

**Sept. 21**      Bill Weems  
                  Gene Osmanski  
                  Nick Trojanowski  
                  Bob Stegmann

**Sept. 28**      Frank Oslakovic  
                  Glenn Werth  
                  A.J. Bray

**Lay Readers      9:00 AM Sunday**

**Sept. 7**      Elise Trojanowski

**Sept. 14**      Christina Trojanowski

**Sept. 21**      Nick Trojanowski

**Sept. 28**      Frank Oslakovic

