

FAITH NEWSLETTER

Oct. / Nov. 2009



Dear brothers and sisters in Christ,

“For God so loved the world that He gave His one and only Son (John 3:16)

God is a giver. He has given us more than we will ever know. Everything that we have comes as a gift from Him. Most importantly, He gives us His own Son to save us.

God gives because God loves. God is love. Out of love, God gives His best, His only Son. That is what love does. Love gives.

Jesus has a lot to say about giving, and so you're going to be hearing about giving in the next few weeks. Beginning October 18, we start our new stewardship program, “Love Gives.”

It begins with God and His giving love, but it doesn't stop there. God creates giving love in our hearts, and we also express our love by giving.

God's love doesn't stop with us. God's love creates love in us. It flows through us to those around us as we give to them out of love.

In our Scripture lessons, our sermons, our Bible Studies and our devotions in the weeks to come, we'll hear how God loves us and has given us amazing gifts, more than we could ever hope or imagine. We'll also see examples of Christians who have gone before us and who have given generously out of love. Finally, we'll look at our own giving and see what a joy it is to participate in God's love by giving.

People tend to get nervous when you start talking about giving. Plenty of folks are happy to believe in God, so long as they don't have to do anything about it. James warns us against this attitude as he writes,

“What good is it, my brothers, if a man claims to have faith but has no deeds? Can such faith save him? Suppose a brother or sister is without clothes and daily food. If one of you says to him, ‘Go, I wish you well; keep warm and well fed,’ but does nothing about his physical needs, what good is it? In the same way, faith by itself, if it is not accompanied by action, is dead.” (James 2:14-17)

Faith and love go together. Faith towards God leads us to love our neighbor. We do this by giving generously. Whether it's giving food to the hungry, giving time to the lonely, or giving your tithe to support the work of the church, these are all ways that we express our faith by loving and giving. This giving, loving, faith is itself a gift from God, given and strengthened in the Divine Service.

God loved the world. He didn't keep all His love to Himself. He loved you and He gave you His Son so that you also would love and give to those in your world.

God's Blessings,

Pastor Mark Birkholz

In and Around Faith Church

LWML

All ladies are invited to the Fall meeting at Grace Church, Willow Springs. Registration is at 8:30 and breakfast is at 9:00 AM. As our service project, we will roll bandages to be sent to Africa.

Grace Scott

Food Pantry

The increased demand on our Food Pantry has depleted many items on our shelves. Therefore, Sunday, Oct. 4th has been set aside as Food Pantry Donation Day. We would appreciate any kind of help you might be able to provide. The following items are always needed:

Canned Fruit
Soups: especially cream soups (no tomato)
Canned Beans: kidney beans, pork & beans, etc.
(not green beans)
Instant Mashed Potatoes
Pasta Sauce
Apple Sauce
Vegetable Oil
Cereal
Paper products

You may place items in the box in the Narthex.

Giving to Others

Our service men and women in Iraq and Afghanistan would appreciate items from home.

Faith Ladies Aid has started the "Operation Christmas Stocking" project and would like your help with this undertaking. A box is in the Narthex where you can place your donations.

The following is a suggested list.

Thank you for your support.

Beef Jerky	Nuts
Gummy Candy	Trail Mix
Cookies	Gum
Hard Candy	Tootsie Pops
Ramon Noodles	Microwave Popcorn
Snack Dips	Buddy Bars
Slim Jims	Crackers
Tuna/Chicken snacks to go	
Pretzels	
Pringles	

Ladies Aid

Our next meeting will be Oct. 1st at 7:00 PM in the Parish Hall. This meeting will be devoted to planning our Fall Bazaar. Come join us as we plan and also enjoy some fellowship.

In November we have our meeting on Nov. 5th with the Bazaar on the Nov. 10th.

Once again on Nov. 10th we will be offering our chili lunch starting at 11:00 AM. The cost for lunch is \$3.00.

The pork roast dinner will be in the evening. The cost will be \$4.00 for children and \$9.00 for adults.

The ladies are looking for items for the White Elephant table (no clothes). We would also appreciate baked items and if you are creative and can donate craft items they will be greatly received.

Congregation Meeting

Our November congregation meeting is an important one. We will be discussing and voting on the 2010 budget as well as electing officers for next year.

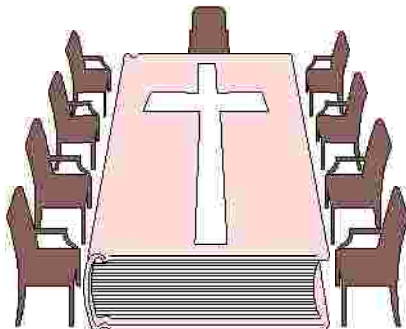
Please attend and be involved in our church's future.

Schedule of Oct. / Nov. 2009 Events

<u>Date</u>	<u>Time</u>	<u>Oct. Event</u>
3	9:00 AM	Food Pantry Distribution
4	9:00 AM	Worship / Communion
	10:15 AM	Adult Bible Class
11	9:00 AM	Worship / Children's Msg.
	10:15 AM	Adult Bible Class
17	9:00 AM	Food Pantry Distribution
18	9:00 AM	Worship / Communion
	10:15 AM	Adult Bible Class
25	9:00 PM	Worship / Children's Msg.
	10:15 AM	Adult Bible Class

Weekly Meetings

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



<u>Date</u>	<u>Time</u>	<u>Nov. 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 AM	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
25	7:00 PM	Thanksgiving Eve
		Worship / Communion
29	9:00 AM	Worship / Communion
	10:15 AM	Adult Bible Class

Evening with Jesus

Mark your calendar for October 15th. This is the date for our children's night of bible lessons. We begin at 6:00 PM and end around 7:30 PM.

We will hear Bible stories, make a craft, sing, have a snack and play some games.

Come join us and bring a friend.

We will meet on the third Thursday each month.

October 15th, we will learn about Joseph.

November 19th we will learn about Jonah.

December 17th we will again cherish the time to prepare for the birth of Jesus as we hear the Christmas story.

So don't forget to mark your calendars! We'll see you there.

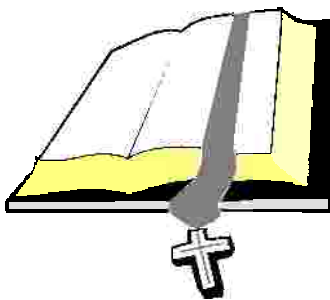
Oct. / Nov. Elders, Ushers & Lay Readers

Worship 9:00 AM Sunday

- Oct. 4** Gene Osmanski
Ed Neaves
Nick Trojanowski
Glen Werth
- Oct. 11** Richard Clark
Ray Bennett
Tim Radosevich
- Oct. 18** Frank Oslakovic
Bill Weems
Nick Trojanowski
Mark Trojanowski
- Oct. 25** Alden Ketchum
Mary Slepki
Gail Henson

Lay Readers 9:00 AM Sunday

- Oct. 4** Gene Osmanski
- Oct. 11** Ray Bennett
- Oct. 18** Bill Weems
- Oct. 25** Debbie Hochgesang



Worship 9:00 AM Sunday

- Nov. 1** Gene Osmanski
Ed Neaves
Ray Bennett
Glen Werth
- Nov. 8** Richard Clark
A.J. Bray
Franny Rheinwald
- Nov. 15** Frank Oslakovic
Bill Weems
Mark Trojanowski
Nick Trojanowski
- Nov. 22** Alden Ketchum
Gail Henson
Mary Slepki
- Nov. 25** Thanksgiving Eve 7:00PM
Frank Oslakovic
Alden Ketchum
Glen Werth
Ed Neaves
- Nov. 29** Gene Osmanski
Ed Neaves
Ray Bennett
Tim Radosevich

Lay Readers 9:00 AM Sunday

- Nov. 1** Nick Trojanowski
- Nov. 8** Ed Neaves
- Nov. 15** Mark Trojanowski
- Nov. 22** Gene Osmanski
- Nov. 29** Ray Bennett