

FAITH NEWSLETTER

October / November 2013



Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

On October 22, 1939 a small group of Lutherans met in the basement of one of the houses in our neighborhood. They had written to the church headquarters in St. Louis because they wanted a church nearby where they and their families could worship, and that they could use to reach out to their neighbors in the growing community. The folks in St. Louis sent an area pastor to help them get organized, and within a few months, Faith Lutheran Church was born.

Next year we will celebrate the **75th anniversary** of these events, and give thanks for God's blessings over the years. Much has changed; both in our congregation and our community, but the good news of salvation in Jesus Christ has remained the same.

There have been many ups and downs in the past several decades. A few years ago we were looking at options to combine or share resources with other congregations in the area. Thankfully, however, our members have responded generously and the Lord has given us what we need to keep going.

As we look towards the future, several opportunities have presented themselves to improve and enhance our facilities. The church council will be meeting in October to discuss these projects and lay out a course for the next few years. This plan will be presented to the voters in November for further discussion and approval.

Here are some of these projects being discussed:

Chairlifts- The lift we have is aging and cannot always accommodate those who need to use it. We have received estimates both to replace the existing lift and to add a lift to the church basement to provide better access to this area.

Church Basement- Suggestions have been made regarding reconfiguring our current storage area for tables and chairs, providing easier access to this space.

Outside Railings- The cast iron railing near our west entrance to the church needs to be replaced, and some have suggested adding one for the north entrance as well.

There may be other projects that are important for us to consider. In the next few weeks, please keep the leaders of our congregation in your prayers. If you have any specific ideas or suggestions you would like them to consider, please contact any of the congregation leaders. May the Lord continue to bless us now and in the years to come.

Peace be with you,

Pastor Mark Birkholz

In and Around Faith Church

Ladies Aid

Our next meeting/Bazaar setup will be Nov. 7th at 6:30 PM. All of the Ladies of Faith are welcome to join us.

Our Christmas Bazaar is Nov. 9th from 9:00 AM until 4:00 PM. We will have a Chili and Hot Dog lunch beginning at 11:00 AM. As usual we will have our Bakery table, our White Elephant table and our Craft table for you to peruse. We will also have our Raffle. Plan on joining us and don't forget to tell your friends.

We need your help for this to be a successful event. Sunday, the 2nd we will need the men to help move tables and chairs. On the 7th we will be setting up all items for the Bazaar. Don't forget to we can use donated bakery and crafts.

Kathleen Novak Membership Chairman

Organ Update

As you may have heard, our current organ has many electronic and mechanical problems that cannot be repaired. St. John Lutheran Church in Wheaton has graciously offered to donate their organ to us, which is fairly new and will be a tremendous improvement. Earlier this year, Shirley Burkett gave a very generous gift to Faith in memory of her nephew, Al Laschober. Shirley has requested that these funds be used to cover the costs of moving and installing the new organ. We expect the organ to be moved to Faith in the spring or summer of 2014.

Sunday School

Several of the parents in the congregation have requested that we offer more opportunities for kids to learn on Sunday mornings; therefore we are planning to restart our Sunday School in 2014. We will begin by meeting just on the first Sunday of each month after the Divine Service. We're still working out the details, but we will need some volunteers to help. Watch for a sign-up sheet and more information to come.

All Saints' Day

This year we will celebrate All Saints' Day at Faith on Sunday, November 3. At this service we will commemorate those members of our congregation who have fallen asleep in Jesus over the course of the past year:

Mildred Clark (January 9)
Alexander "Bud" Diehl (January 30)
Dorothy Litke (February 7)
Al DeVries (June 25)
Hertha Fahlberg (August 4)

There will also be a brunch served in the church basement immediately following the service. We will be looking for volunteers to provide refreshments and to help serve at this event.

Food Pantry

Starting in October, the food pantry will be requesting one or two needed items each month. While we will continue to receive any donations you would like to give, here are suggestions of what we are looking for:

October- Pasta and Pasta Sauce

November- Cranberry Sauce and Stuffing

In the coming weeks we typically begin receiving donations from schools in the area, so watch for information on when we will need help transporting and sorting food. If you would like to volunteer at the food pantry, please contact Bob Green.

Faith, Hope and Peace Ministries

Pastor Birkholz is a founding member and serves on the Board of Directors of this non-profit corporation. It's an organization that helps LCMS pastors and congregations work together to provide services at area residential care facilities. We are currently in ten facilities both in the Chicago suburbs and in Rockford and serve 150-200 residents each week. Services are on Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday mornings at a variety of locations. If you would like to volunteer by helping with these services, please speak with Pastor Birkholz.

Schedule October / November 2013 Events

<u>Date</u>	<u>Time</u>	<u>October Event</u>
5	9:00 AM	Food Pantry Distribution
6	9:00 AM	Worship / Communion
	10:15 AM	Adult Bible Class
13	9:00 AM	Worship / Communion
	10:15 AM	Adult Bible Class
19	9:00 AM	Food Pantry Distribution
20	9:00 AM	Worship / Communion
	10:15 AM	Adult Bible Class
27	9:00 AM	Worship / Communion
	10:15 AM	Adult Bible Class

Weekly Meetings

Bible Study Fri. - 10:00 AM
Confirmation Class Tues. - 3:30 PM
Evening w/Jesus 3rd Thurs. - 6:00 PM
AA Groups Mon., Wed. & Fri. - 6:00 PM
Sat. - 8:00 AM
ALANON Tue. - 7:30 PM
Barnabas Christian Assembly Sun. - 12:00 PM

Thanksgiving Eve

This year's Thanksgiving Eve service will be on Wednesday, November 27 at 7:00p. We will gather to thank the Lord for His blessings to our families, our congregation, and our nation, and to eat together the special Thanksgiving meal of the Lord's Supper. Our choir will sing and we will celebrate with thankfulness the gifts of our generous God.

Circuit Reformation Service

You are invited to join with your fellow Lutherans in the area to give thanks to God for His Good News, especially as it has been preached by Martin Luther and other reformers in our church body.

Our celebration will be held on Wednesday, October 30th at 7:00p at Mount Greenwood Lutheran Church (10911 S Trumbull Ave). More information to come.

<u>Date</u>	<u>Time</u>	<u>November 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 / Communion
	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
24	9:00 AM	Worship / Communion
	10:15 AM	Adult Bible Class
27	Thanksgiving Eve	
	7:00 PM	Worship / Communion

Installation Service

The Rev. Eric Andersen has accepted a call to serve as pastor of Zion Lutheran Church in Summit. You are invited to attend his installation service on Sunday, October 13 at 3:00p. Zion is located at 59th Street and Archer Avenue. Pastor Andersen and his wife, Tiffinie, grew up in the area, attending Stagg High School and St. Xavier University before transferring to Concordia University Chicago. Tiffinie is the niece of Sue Stegmann. The Andersens have three young children and are expecting their fourth early next year. If you are planning to attend the installation, there will be a carpool leaving from Faith around 2:00p on October 13.

Home Visit Update

I am in the process of visiting all the member families in the congregation. These visits started in September and will take 12 months to complete. You may be contacted for a visit in the coming weeks, but it may also be some time before I contact you. If you have any concerns that you would like to discuss with me, please contact me any time.

Pastor Birkholz

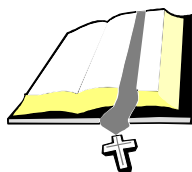
Oct. / Nov. Elders, Ushers & Lay Readers

Oct. Worship 9:00 AM Sunday

- Oct. 6** Alden Ketchum
Ed Neaves
Ray Bennett
Howard Johnson
- Oct. 13** Richard Clark
Frank Oslakovic
Katie Kampenga
Mike Kampenga
- Oct. 20** Ed Neaves
Bob Green
Mark Trojanowski
Nick Trojanowski
- Oct. 27** Alden Ketchum
Gene Osmanski
Mary Slepски
Howard Johnson

Lay Readers 9:00 AM Sunday

- Oct. 6** Ray Bennett
- Oct. 13** Katie Kampenga
- Oct. 20** Mark Trojanowski
- Oct. 27** Debbie Hochgesang



October Hymn of the Month

Church of God, Elect and Glorious (# 646)

This is a newer hymn, first introduced in Hymnal Supplement '98. It reflects on the blessings we have through our membership in Christ's body, the Church. The first verse reminds us of who God has called us to be and how we live out this calling in our daily lives. The second verse points to the light of Christ which is alive in us and shines out through us. In the third verse we sing of the welcome God has given to us and that we give to others. The final verse focuses on the prayer and service that come from being God's royal priests.

Nov. Worship 9:00 AM Sunday

- Nov. 3** Richard Clark
Bob Green
A.J. Bray
Ray Bennett
- Nov. 10** Gene Osmanski
Frank Oslakovic
Mark Trojanowski
Nick Trojanowski
- Nov. 17** Alden Ketchum
Ed Neaves
Mike Kampenga
Katie Kampenga
- Nov. 24** Richard Clark
Bob Green
Mark Trojanowski
Nick Trojanowski
- Nov. 27** **Thanksgiving Eve 7:00 PM**

- Ed Neaves
Richard Clark
Bob Green
Howard Johnson

Lay Readers 9:00 AM Sunday

- Nov. 3** Ed Neaves
- Nov. 10** Nick Trojanowski
- Nov. 17** Mike Kampenga
- Nov. 24** Gene Osmanski

November Hymn of the Month

Sing with All the Saints in Glory (# 671)

Our November hymn is slightly newer as well, and also found its way into Hymnal Supplement '98. This hymn reflects on the joys and glory of heaven and our ongoing connection with those who have already died in the faith.

Mom's Night Out

Our next Mom's night out will be Fri. Nov, 15th. We will meet at church at 6:00 PM. Mom's will go out to eat and Dad's and kids will play games, do crafts and have fun. Invite anyone with young children to join us. You don't have to be a Faith parent to participate.