

FAITH NEWSLETTER

June / July 2018



Dear Friends,

May 6th was a memorable day for me and our whole congregation. We received the gift of a new organ and used it to lead our hymns and songs of praise and thanksgiving. The church was full to overflowing, and we welcomed many guests including former members and pastors, friends from area congregations, and distinguished guests from our church body.

But that service was not the best part of the day for me as your pastor. The best part came earlier in the day at our regular Divine Service. That morning we had two first-time visitors to our congregation. One was an extended family member of one of our members. The other was someone from the neighborhood whom I had met earlier in the week.

Following the service, both of these individuals told me that they wanted to meet and to prepare to receive the Lord's Supper. Just yesterday we had our first class, and those two were joined by one other. We began to talk about the Ten Commandments, our sinfulness, and the love that God has for us.

Organs are great, and if you haven't been here to hear the new organ, be sure to come soon. But people are most important of all, and it's wonderful to see us connect with new people around us and bring them the love of Jesus.

It was great to worship at the hymn festival with a full church. It is not impossible for us to have a full church again on a regular basis. God is the one who gathers us together and He can certainly continue to add to our congregation. But God usually works through people. He uses us to connect with other people in our lives and share His love. That may seem scary and intimidating, but it doesn't need to be.

Sometime in the near future, you'll be hearing more about a program called "Every One His Witness". It's designed to help people like you learn how to talk to people you know about Jesus. We'll probably be offering this at Faith later this summer or in the fall. Connecting people to Jesus is a joyful experience, and I hope that you'll join me in that work here at Faith.

Pastor Birkholz

In and Around Faith Church

Ladies Aid

We would like to thank all of you who made our annual Rummage Sale a success. We were able to continue our mission work here at Faith with the profits of this Fund Raiser.

Our June 7th meeting will be our Pizza Party at 6:30 PM in the Parish Hall. All ladies of Faith are invited. Please contact one of our officers if you plan to attend.

Guest Pastor

The Birkholz family will be on vacation in late June and early July. Pastor Dan Gensch will be our guest preacher on June 24th and July 1st. During the Bible Class / Sunday School hour on June 24th, Pastor Gensch will be making a presentation on the Catacombs of Rome, using pictures from his recent trip.

Vacation Bible School

This year's Vacation Bible School will focus on the Ten Commandments, under the theme, "Loving our Neighbor." During the week, the kids will work on service projects for those in need. VBS will run from June 11-15, from 9:30am - 12:00pm each day. All children age 12 and younger are welcome to attend. Those under 3 must be accompanied by an adult. Adult and teen volunteers are needed for any and all days. A volunteer meeting will be held on Saturday, June 2nd at 10:30am. The congregation is invited to attend the closing program on Friday, June 15th at 11:30am with refreshments following. The VBS children will also sing during the church service on June 17th.

Video Streaming

Faith services are now being recorded and streamed live. If you are unable to attend, you can watch the services at www.facebook.com/faithoaklawn/videos or http://www.youtube.com/channel/UCIWHrdW3LVh6BXvbCCEJ_RQ.

Church Picnic

Our annual church picnic is on June 10th at Wolfe Wildlife Refuge @ 109th and Laramie. It will begin at 11:30 AM and will end about 3:00 PM.

Hot dogs and hamburgers and soda will be provided. Please bring your own paper plates and utensils. Also, please bring a dish for the common table. If you plan on playing Bingo, please bring a wrapped \$5.00 gift,

We hope to see you there.

Mission Visit

Our Missionary in Togo, Pastor Jacob Gaugert, will be here at Faith to visit us on Tuesday, July 10th. He will preach in a Vespers service at 7:00pm, and then give a presentation on his work in Togo. Pastor Birkholz will also attempt to provide a sampling of Togolese cuisine.

Summer Catechesis

This summer will be our sixth year for working through the catechism together. From July 8-29 we will go through the four questions from the catechism on the Lord's Supper. We will also be discussing the Lord's Supper during the Bible Class / Sunday School hour. Don't miss this opportunity to be reminded and continue to learn about the gifts Christ gives to us in the Lord's Supper.

Worship Anew- A Program for Shut-ins

A 30-minute Lutheran worship service is televised weekly on Sunday at 8:00 am on Chicago's CW station WPWR channel 50 (Comcast 184) and at 10:30 am on TCT (DirecTV channel 377). A complete list of viewing options is available at WorshipAnew.org.

Schedule of June / July 2018 Events

<u>Date</u>	<u>Time</u>	<u>June Event</u>
2	9:00 AM	Food Pantry Distribution
3	9:00 AM	Worship / Communion
	10:15 AM	Sunday School / Bible Class
10	9:00 AM	Worship / Communion
	10:15 AM	Sunday School / Bible Class
16	9:00 AM	Food Pantry Distribution
17	9:00 AM	Worship / Communion
	10:15 AM	Sunday School / Bible Class
24	9:00 AM	Worship / Communion
	10:15 AM	Sunday School / Bible Class

Weekly Meetings

Bible Study	Fri. - 10:00 AM
AA Groups	Mon. & Fri. - 6:00 PM
	Wed. & Thur. - 7:00 PM
	Sat. - 8:00 AM
Alanon	Tue. - 7:30 PM

Hymn of the Month

June - "I Walk in Danger All the Way" (#716)

Hans Adolph Brorson is one of the great Danish hymn writers. He is best known for "Behold a Host Arrayed in White" (# 676). Brorson was the son of a pastor and was eventually chosen as bishop. During his time, most Lutheran hymns were only available in German, and so He translated and composed hundreds in the Danish language. The first three verses of this hymn warn us of the dangers we face in life from Satan, sin, and death. The last three verses comfort us with the message that in the midst of the dangers we walk with the angels, and with Jesus Himself, until we reach our heavenly home.

<u>Date</u>	<u>Time</u>	<u>July Event</u>
1	9:00 AM	Worship / Communion
	10:15 AM	Sunday School / Bible Class
7	9:00 AM	Food Pantry Distribution
8	9:00 AM	Worship / Communion
	10:15 AM	Sunday School / Bible Class
15	9:00 AM	Worship / Communion
	10:15 M	Sunday School / Bible Class
21	9:00 AM	Food Pantry Distribution
22	9:00 AM	Worship / Communion
	10:15 AM	Sunday School / Bible Class
29	9:00 AM	Worship / Communion
	10:15 AM	Sunday School / Bible Class

Summer Sunday School/Bible Study

The last date for Sunday School is June 3rd. Neither Sunday School nor Bible Class will meet on June 10th.

June 17th Sunday School and Bible Class will meet together and through the rest of the summer.

Hymn of the Month

July - "What Is This Bread" (#629)

As we study the Lord's Supper in July, we will be well-served by this recent hymn. Pastor Fritz Baue, a retired LCMS pastor, wrote the words to this hymn based on the Small Catechism, and his wife, Jean, wrote the tune. In simple question and answer form, this hymn proclaims that we receive the body and blood of Jesus in the Lord's Supper.

June / July 2018 Elders, Ushers & Lay Readers

June Worship 9:00 AM Sunday

June 3 Alden Ketchum
Ed Neaves
Mary Slepiski
Ray Bennett

June 10 Mike Kampenga
Richard Clark
Kenilynn Breitbarth
Mark Trojanowski

June 17 Alden Ketchum
Gene Osmanski
Marilyn Diehl
Sheila Kush

June 24 Mike Kampenga
Ed Neaves
Ray Bennett
Katie Kampenga

Lay Readers 9:00 AM Sunday

June 3 Kenilynn Breitbarth

June 10 Mike Kampenga

June 17 Gene Osmanski

June 24 Debbie Hochgesang

July 1 Mark Trojanowski

July 8 Ed Neaves

July 15 Dora Haynes

July 22 Angela Schillaci

July 29 Ray Bennett

July Worship 9:00 AM Sunday

July 1 Gene Osmanski
Richard Clark
Cheyenne Breitbarth
Mark Trojanowski

July 8 Alden Ketchum
Mike Kampenga
Mary Slepiski
Ray Bennett

July 15 Ed Neaves
Richard Clark
Sheila Kush
Dora Haynes

July 22 Gene Osmanski
Alden Ketchum
Marilyn Diehl
Katie Kampenga

July 29 Mike Kampenga
Richard Clark
Sarah Kampenga
Rachel Kanpenga

