

FAITH NEWSLETTER

October / November 2019



Dear Friends,

When I was growing up, I loved dinosaurs. I loved to read about them and especially to go see dinosaur bones in museums. I was confused, though, when the books I read and the displays at the museums all spoke of the dinosaurs evolving over millions of years and then going extinct. That didn't seem to fit with what I was learning from the Bible about God's creation.

Most scientists view the biblical stories as nothing more than myths with little to no basis in reality. As Christians, how do we view the fossil record and other evidence that seems to affirm evolution? How do we teach our children about the origins of life and of the human species? These are difficult questions that many Christians have struggled with, particularly in the last century or two, and they continue to be debated today.

Every week we confess "I believe in God, the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth." The doctrine of creation goes to the very foundation of our faith—who God is, and we are, and it's important that we be able to understand and explain what we mean as we confess this teaching.

You will have the opportunity on Saturday, November 23, to hear an accomplished scientist and a committed Christian talk about how science and theology work together, particularly when it comes to creation and evolution. Dr. Michael Young is the head of the science department at Concordia University Wisconsin. He has a PhD from Washington University in St. Louis in molecular cell biology, a BS in biochemistry and zoology from Michigan State University, and is a lifelong LCMS Lutheran.

I hope that you will be able to join me that morning for this important discussion. This is a great opportunity to invite friends and relatives, young people in particular, to join us here at Faith. We're still working out the logistics, but for now, save the date, and start thinking about other people you know who might be interested.

Many thanks,

Pastor Mark Birkholz

In and Around Faith Church

Ladies Aid

Our next meeting will be Saturday, October 12th at 10:30 AM in the Parish Hall. We will discuss our plans for the Fall Bazaar. The Bazaar will be held on Saturday, November 9th starting at 11:00AM. A hot dog and chili luncheon will be served from 11:00AM-1:00PM for \$5 (\$1 extra for a chili dog). We will also have a spaghetti dinner at 5:30PM, including bread and salad. The cost for the dinner will be \$7 for adults and \$5 for kids. Dessert will be available as a freewill donation. We would appreciate donations of items for the bake sale, white elephant, crafts, and raffle.

New Bible Class

Our Friday Morning group will be starting a study of the Gospel of John on October 4th. Class meets from 11:00AM - 12:00AM, and everyone is welcome to join.

Missions of the Month

October: BEDS-Plus

This rotating homeless shelter provides housing services to those in need in our community. On Wednesday evenings we'll be making special treats to include in their daily sack lunches. We are also celebrating SOCKTOBERFEST, so please bring your donation of new socks to church all month.

November: Faith Food Pantry

The Thanksgiving distribution is usually the busiest day for our Food Pantry. During November we will be preparing special items to distribute in our pantry over the winter months, as well as invitations for our guests to join us for the holiday services.

Reformation Day

We will celebrate the rediscovery of the gospel and the work of the Lutheran Reformers on Sunday, October 27th. The Faith Choir will also present one of Martin Luther's hymns as our Offering of Song.

Evening Prayer

Our Wednesday Evening Services have resumed and will continue through the end of May. Come for a peaceful service of prayer and meditation on God's Word and time to work on service projects for our mission partners each Wednesday at 7:00PM.

Chili Cook - Off

The Faith Trustees are sponsoring the Fifth Annual Howard Johnson Memorial Chili Cook-Off on Saturday, October 19th, beginning at 5:00 PM. Come and see if Ray Bennett can successfully defend his title from last year! Please sign up at church or contact the church office if you'd like to enter a batch of chili. Tickets are \$10 for adults and \$5 for children, with all proceeds going to the Faith Building Fund.

All Saints' Day

This year All Saints' Day will be celebrated on Sunday, November 3rd. During this service we will give thanks to God for the life and faith of the members of our congregation who have fallen asleep in Jesus in the past year: Marge Ketchum and Bob & Eleonore Lang. Members of the congregation will also have an opportunity to submit names to include in our remembrance.

Seminar

Dr. Michael Young, Professor of Science at Concordia University Wisconsin will give a presentation on the morning of Saturday, November 23rd on the intersection of science and theology, especially as it concerns the biblical account of creation and the theory of evolution. Watch for more details in the coming weeks.

Schedule of Oct. / Nov. 2019 Events

| <u>Date</u> | <u>Time</u> | <u>Oct. Event</u> |
|-------------|-------------|----------------------------|
| 5 | 9:00 AM | Food Pantry Distribution |
| 6 | 9:00 AM | Worship / Communion |
| | 10:15 AM | Sunday School |
| | 10:30 AM | Bible Class |
| 13 | 9:00 AM | Worship / Communion |
| | 10:15 AM | Sunday School |
| | 10:30 AM | Bible Class. |
| 19 | 9:00 AM | Food Pantry Distribution |
| 20 | 9:00 AM | Worship / Communion |
| | 10:15 AM | Sunday School |
| | 10:30 AM | Bible Class |
| 27 | 9:00 AM | Worship / Communion |
| | 10:15 AM | Sunday School |
| | 10:30 AM | Bible Class |

Weekly Meetings

| | |
|---------------------------|-----------------------|
| Bible Study | Fri. - 10:00 AM |
| AA Groups | Mon. & Fri. - 6:00 PM |
| | Wed. - 7:00 PM |
| | Sat. - 8:00 AM |
| Alanon | Tue. - 7:00 PM |
| | Wed. - 10:00 AM |
| Celebrate Recovery | Tues. - 7:00 PM |

October Hymn of the Month

“Lord Jesus Christ, With Us Abide” (# 585)

Philipp Melanchthon was Luther’s right hand man, and the author of both the Augsburg Confession and its Apology. He wrote a Latin poem in 1551 that was later translated into German and became the first verse of this hymn. The other verses were written by Nicolaus Selnecker, one of the leaders of the second generation of Lutheran Reformers. This hymn is based on the prayer of the disciples on the road to Emmaus that Jesus would abide with them. It reminds us that Jesus is present with us in Word and Sacrament, despite the dangers we face from both outside and within the church.

| <u>Date</u> | <u>Time</u> | <u>Nov. Event</u> |
|-------------|-------------|---|
| 2 | 9:00 AM | Food Pantry Distribution |
| 3 | 9:00 AM | Worship / Communion |
| | 10:15 AM | Sunday School |
| | 10:30 AM | Bible Class |
| 10 | 9:00 AM | Worship / Communion |
| | 10:15 AM | Sunday School |
| | 10:30 AM | Bible Class |
| 16 | 9:00 AM | Food Pantry Distribution |
| 17 | 9:00 AM | Worship / Communion |
| | 10:15 AM | Sunday School |
| | 10:30 AM | Bible Class |
| 24 | 9:00 AM | Worship / Communion |
| | 10:15 AM | Sunday School |
| | 10:30 AM | Bible Class |
| 27 | 7:00 PM | Thanksgiving Eve Worship / Communion |



November Hymn of the Month

“Here, O My Lord, I See Thee Face to Face” (# 631)

“At the close of the celebration of the Lord’s Supper at St. Andrew’s Free Church, Greenock, Scotland, a printed leaflet with notices of forthcoming services and a suitable hymn was customarily given to each departing communicant at the church door. For the observance of the first Sunday of October, 1855, the pastor, John James Bonar, requested his younger brother, Horatius Bonar, to provide a Communion poem for this leaflet. This hymn was promptly written and made its first appearance on that Sunday.” From Lutheran Worship: Hymnal Companion, p. 260.

Oct. / Nov. 2019 Elders, Ushers & Lay Readers

Oct. Worship 9:00 AM Sunday

| | |
|----------------|--|
| Oct. 6 | Ed Neaves Rich Clarl Mary Slepski Cheyenne Breitbarth |
| Oct. 13 | Mike Kampenga Richard Clark Kenilynn Breitbarth Marilyn Diehl |
| Oct. 20 | Ed Neaves Mark Trojanowski Sheila Kush Ray Bennett |
| Oct. 27 | Mike Kampenga Richard Clark Sarah Kampenga Rachel Kampenga |

Lay Readers 9:00 AM Sunday

| | |
|----------------|-------------------|
| Oct. 6 | Ed Neaves |
| Oct. 13 | Mike Kampenga |
| Oct. 20 | Katie Kampenga |
| Oct. 27 | Ray Bennett |
| Nov. 3 | Mark Trojanowski |
| Nov. 10 | Angela Schillaci |
| Nov. 17 | Gene Osmanski |
| Nov. 24 | Debbie Hochgesang |

Nov. Worship 9:00 AM Sunday

| | |
|--|---|
| Nov. 3 | Gene Osmanski Ed Neaves Ray Bennett Mark Trojanowski |
| Nov. 10 | Richard Clark Mike Kampenga Marilyn Diehl Mary Slepski |
| Nov. 17 | Gene Osmanski Ed Neaves Ray Bennett Dora Haynes |
| Nov. 24 | Richard Clark Mike Kampenga Sheila Kush Katie Kampenga |
| Nov. 27 7:00 PM Thanksgiving Eve | Ed Neaves Gene Osmanski Richard Clark Ray Bennett |

Pie Social

Once again this year we'll be having a Pie Social immediately following our 7:00PM Thanksgiving Eve Service on Wednesday, November 27th. Bring your favorite pie to share.

Thank You

Thank you to everyone who sent cards, gave words of encouragement and prayed for our Marge during her time of need.

The Family of Marge Ketchum

