

Faith Journeys

Faith Lutheran Church -- ELCA

June 2014

Pastor Joy's Message

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Summer Worship Schedule
9:30

New Life

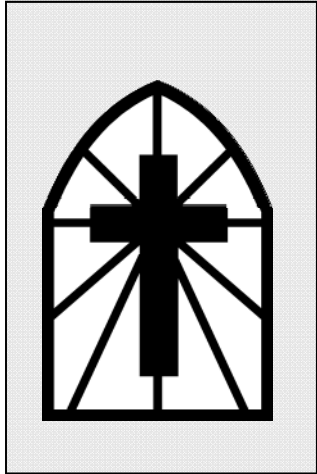
This is my favorite time of the year. I love the beginning of June! School is letting out for the summer, the flowers and trees are blooming and bright, it is finally getting warm. There is an excitement in the air with graduations and summer vacation plans happening. It is fun to get outside and enjoy the weather, to go on a walk, to garden, or to watch the kids play. There just seems to be so much hope and joy in every single day.

Here in the church, this time of year typically marks the end of our great Easter celebration where for 50 days we celebrate Christ's victory over death. This year Pentecost comes on June 8th, marking the end of the season. Of course, we never stop focusing on Jesus Christ's gift to us. We simply move into the next season filled with the Holy Spirit and rejoicing at God's gift of new life.

This year, June is an especially exciting time for my family and me. As you know, I am due to have a baby on June 1st. So, as you are reading this, he may already be here or if not, will be very, very soon.

As much as we are very excited to welcome this new member of our family, it will mean that we will be away from our new family at Faith for a while. Thankfully we have had such a fantastic start. The first 3 months here have been great. It has been wonderful to get to know so many of you and learn about this faithful community. I have no doubt that things will be just fine while I am away and I will look forward to returning to get back to work and "Making Christ Known" with you all. Also, it will be great to introduce you to the newest Alsop!

God's gift of new life is so overwhelming. We are blessed to see it and experience it in so many ways. Flowers blooming, babies being born, starting new ministry adventures together, and of course through the resurrection of our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ. I pray that you can encounter this gift of new life and hope this season.



From Your Youth and Family Coordinator

For all of you who are struggling with your younger kids to sit still, listen, or behave during church and for all of you who are struggling with your preteens or teenagers to get them to at least come to church or confirmation class- this one is for you!

I've sat in your pew. I've sat in your cry room. I've walked your halls for countless runs to the drinking fountain. I've driven home frustrated that I heard nothing during the sermon. I've been where you are. I've threatened to pour cold water over a kid who would not get out of bed. You may not be there yet- but I have. I have attended Christmas programs where my son plopped down on his knees, crossed his arms, and refused to utter one merry Christmas song. BUT I'm here to tell you- DON'T GIVE UP- because one day it will turn around for you.

A couple weeks ago without any prodding, arguing, or threatening cold water, my son showed up to church all on his own. Now, this may not seem like a big deal to some- but for me and for my child who disliked Sunday school and church so much- it was our own little miracle. When I turned around to see him sitting in the pew- all those frustrating years came back to me and managed to produce tears. Now I didn't make a big deal about it to him, I just turned around and smiled. (And please don't make it a big deal for him by mentioning it- he'll be mortified!) Now this wasn't my doing, this was the Holy Spirit moving in his life. Our job as parents is to bring our children to worship, read them the Word, and to emulate a Christian way of life for them- and then God takes over.

I believe that when we get our children involved in worship and find ways to serve together as families, they will develop a sense of ownership in their church and faith life. When children are given opportunities to usher, greet, read, assist the minister, serve communion, sing, and even pull off a great puppet skit, they are finding ownership and using their gifts as an offering to God.

I also believe that the community (their classmates, teachers, and other adults) is an important part of their faith life. We as adults enjoy fellowship with friends from church on Sunday mornings and throughout the week. I've met some of my closet friends at church. It is important for the kids to also have that connection with other kids, and maybe sometimes that may be the only reason that they want to come, but that's okay. Having good relationships with others and God is another important part of the church and worship on Sunday's.

Now I'm not saying that just because he showed up one Sunday on his own that he'll suddenly be here every Sunday and I won't ever have to threaten a bucket of cold water again! No, it's about him beginning his own journey, and that I'm still here as his parent guiding him when he gets off track (Hey, you haven't been to church in 3 weeks- maybe it's time to go this week). I'm also hopefully inspiring the rest of you younger parents to not give up- try not to be frustrated- stay the course- and to tell you that you are doing a great job!

And if you need a break- I'm usually sitting by myself on Sunday's, so there's plenty of room in my pew. (Just don't start a "Sitting with Michelle" sign-up sheet please!)

~Michelle



Vacation Bible School



VBS

Fully Rely On God

July 14-17

9:00am-12:00pm

Ages:

Preschool- 5th Grades

Registration Cost:

\$5.00 per child: No T-Shirt

\$8.50 per Child: With T-Shirt

Pre-Registration Begins:

Sunday, June 1st

Food:

Chocolate Pudding Mix (not individual cups)
 Blue Jell-o (box mix)
 Goldfish crackers (any size boxes)
 Fruit Loops cereal (or generic brand)
 M&M's (no peanut please- any size bags)
 Pretzel sticks (no rods)
 Green color Kool-Aid (or generic brand)
 Apples
 Grapes
 Bananas
 Packaged cookies (Oreos, chocolate chip etc.
 - generic brands)
 Lemonade (Pink or regular- any size
 quantity)

Misc. Items

Wet wipes (any size package or
 container)
 Clear plastic cups (12 oz)
 Paper plates (generic)
 Paper towels
 Green plastic table cloths (for 6 round
 tables, 4 rectangular tables)
 Ziploc sandwich bags (or generic)
 Bottles of school glue

Recyclable items

Toilet paper rolls
 Paper towel rolls
 Egg cartons

July/August Newsletter items are due to the
 office or Diana Arntzen by June 15.

office@faithlcrochelle.org or
 darntzen63@gmail.com

Shawn e-mail: office@faithlcrochelle.org
Pastor e-mail: Pastor@faithlcrochelle.org
Michelle e-mail: Yandf@faithlcrochelle.org
815-562-7575

Birthdays, Anniversaries & News

June Birthdays

| | |
|-------|--|
| 06/01 | Norma Brooks Lois Heitter |
| 06/03 | Ethan Albers Brittni [Moorehead] Stika |
| 06/05 | Deanie Springmire |
| 06/07 | Payton Wohlford |
| 06/08 | Barb Cox Anthony Zilis |
| 06/09 | Anhtony Zilis |
| 06/11 | Lenora Pawlak John Prabhakar Virginia White |
| 06/12 | Katie Zilis |
| 06/14 | Dan Carlson Barb Kinn |
| 06/15 | Jeremy Case Tom Lower |
| 06/17 | Diane Monson |
| 06/18 | Betsy Roinas |
| 06/19 | Alison Dyer |
| 06/21 | Alexis Bergeson Chad Brooks Matthew Lynn Dick Schutte |
| 06/23 | Katie Bergeson Doug Tarvestad Gloria Tyler |
| 06/25 | Laura Broome Tami Geer April Moorehead |
| 06/28 | Deegan Schabacker |

Anniversaries

| | |
|-------|---|
| 06/02 | Jeremy & Rachael Hale |
| 06/10 | Jeff & Tasha Hacaga Eric & Rachel Livingston |
| 06/13 | Ed & Linda Hoffman |
| 06/16 | Gene & Joyce Bialas John & Esther Prabhakar |
| 06/19 | David & Claudia Nelson |
| 06/26 | Art & Kari Ortega |
| 06/27 | Ed & Lois Heitter |

06/30 Brian & Karen Fransen
Gary & Shelley Haws
Abe & Anne Anderson
Nick & Angela Haws

What's Good About Faith?...FASTBreak!

Pastor Joy asked this question in our newsletter this month. My immediate response is FASTBreak (Faith's After School Tutoring Break)! FASTBreak just completed its fifth year on April 30th. It has been my responsibility to coordinate this program, which is so rewarding.

The year began on Sept. 30th, with an initial four students. By Wednesday we had six students and finally grew to ten students on Mondays and twelve students on Wednesdays. This year we had eight girls and four boys in grades second through fifth. We chose not to use the Northern Illinois Food Bank for our snacks. Instead we supplied our own snacks with lemonade as our beverage. Funding for this came by way of donations.

The children arrived by school bus at about 3:40pm, had their snack and were ready to work by 4:00pm. This gave them an hour to complete their homework and work on reading activities and math facts. This is done via three computers, resource materials and educational games. All the students need a faster grasp of math facts and improvement in their reading skills. We ended the year with eight students; losing one in Dec. (quit), Jan. (quit), March (no longer needed help) and April (moved).

FASTBreak is blessed to have dedicated mentors. Some have been with the program since the beginning in 2009. It is because of these people that this program works! I believe it speaks to the rewards we receive in reaching out to help the students in our community. "God's work. Our hands."

Barb Harms ** ***See Pictures on page 8***

Calendar

Lay Ministry

Greeters

9:30 am Jeremy & Cayce Groves and Family

Ushers

9:30 am Dave & Barb Kinn

Altar Care

**Vivian Carlson, Shirley LeMar,
Barb Harms

Acolytes

06/01 9:30 am
06/08 9:30 am
06/15 9:30 am
06/22 9:30 am
06/29 9:30 am

Worship Assistants

| | | |
|-------|---------|-------------------|
| 06/01 | 9:30 am | John Prabhakar |
| 06/08 | 9:30 am | Barb Harms |
| 06/15 | 9:30 am | Claudia Nelson |
| 06/22 | 9:30 am | Michelle Heinrich |
| 06/09 | 9:30 am | |

Communion Assistants

| | | |
|--------|---------|--------------------|
| 06/01 | 9:30 am | Hillary Grutter |
| 06/08 | 9:30 am | Jennifer Valentine |
| 06/015 | 9:30 am | Alice Arjes |
| 06/22 | 9:30 am | Alice Arjes |
| 06/29 | 9:30 am | Alice Arjes |

Readers

| | | |
|-------|---------|------------------|
| 06/01 | 9:30 am | Esther Prabhakar |
| 06/08 | 9:30 am | Emma Valentine |
| 06/15 | 9:30 am | David Nelson |
| 06/22 | 9:30 am | Ethan Sieg |
| 06/29 | 9:30 am | Jeremy Groves |

Fellowship

| | |
|-------|-----------------|
| 06/01 | Linda Hoffman |
| 06/08 | Solvieg Hopkins |
| 06/15 | Father's Day |
| 06/22 | Cherryl Sparks |
| 06/29 | Deb Lower |

Altar Flowers for June

| | |
|-------|------------|
| 06/01 | P. Bauer |
| 06/08 | H. Duthie |
| 06/15 | D. Kinn |
| 06/22 | L. Dyer |
| 06/29 | K. Fransen |

Women of the ELCA - Triennial Convention

The momentum is gathering! Thousands of Lutheran women of many generations from 65 Synods of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America, will be attending the Ninth Triennial Convention from July 21- 27 in Charlotte, NC. Official business will be conducted in the first three days of the convention by the Churchwide board, staff and the voting members elected from all the Synods. Six delegates were elected by NI Synod WELCA last fall to attend the Convention along with SWO President Pat Msseemma. Esther Prabhakar of Faith, was one of the delegates elected last fall and later she was appointed to the Triennial Nominating committee.

July 24 - 27 is the Triennial gathering when special worship, international speakers and workshops are presented. Newly elected Presiding Bishop Elizabeth Eaton is one of the presenters. Thirty-Three women from our Synod will be attending the gathering. If anyone is interested in going, please contact Linda Miller - NISWO Triennial gathering Promoter at 815 229 8333. She will be very happy to assist. Prayers are requested for God's work to be done at the Convention and God's name to be glorified.



Prayer Ministry

Our Family

Ellie Hynson, Duane Truckenbrod, Mary Lowe,
 Mel & Betty Letheby, Bob Daub,
 Lori Johanning, Diane Ruggerio,
 Lois Rewerts

Our Friends

Keith Haggstad (father of Todd Haggstad),
 Carl (brother in law of Susie Wittwer),
 Dave (uncle of Margo Wilkinson), Al & Bev (parents of Al Duthie),
 Connie Hansen (mother of Angie Primrose),
 Marguerite (mother of Margo Wilkinson),
 Gayle Powers (mother of Traci Sedlock),
 Greg Stockton (step father of Traci Sedlock),
 Marilyn Casey (sister in law of Nedra Knapp)

| | |
|--------------------------|--|
| 06/01 | Doug & April Moorehead Donna Nass David & Claudia Nelson |
| 06/08 Kayla | Art & Kari Ortega; Alex, Logan & Ralph & Edna Papke Paul & Lenora Pawlak |
| 06/15 Braden Mason | Jeff & Judy Payne; Audrey & Gary & Michele Petersen; Devyn & John & Esther Prabhakar |
| 06/22 Derej | George & Marilyn Primrose Jim & Angie Primrose; Katekyn & Lois Rewerts |
| 06/29 | Troy & Erin Rittschof; Christopher Danica Rogers Jessica Rogers |



Budget

General Fund

| | Revenues | | Expenses | | Actual Net Income/ Loss |
|-------|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|----------------------------|
| | Actual | Budgeted | Actual | Budgeted | |
| Month | \$15,196.05 | \$13,748.00 | \$15,335.11 | \$15,188.00 | -\$139.06 |
| YTD | \$63,498.48 | \$54,992.00 | \$65,379.78 | \$60,764.00 | -\$1,881.30 |

Building Fund

| | Revenues | | Expenses | | Actual Net Income/ Loss |
|-------|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|----------------------------|
| | Actual | Budgeted | Actual | Budgeted | |
| Month | \$3,685.00 | \$4,437.00 | \$4,463.00 | \$4,774.00 | -\$778.00 |
| YTD | \$18,448.00 | \$17,748.00 | \$17,852.00 | \$19,098.00 | \$596.00 |

M&M (Building) Fund Balance \$10,580.47



FASTBreak volunteers and students.



Thank you to DNA Communications for the donation of our phone and internet service.

News to Note

SMILE



Practice your best smiles for our Life Touch Pictorial Directory Event coming June, 16, 17,18 and July 24, 25 and 26. Hours are from 2 pm til 8 pm on those days with the exception of July 26 and the hours for that day will be 10 am – 4 pm. Our last pictorial was 2010. There were 76 families represented. Our current household number of attending families is 121. So folks, we can do better on the number of households pictured in our 2014 pictorial directory!

We are partnering with Lifetouch for this important project. Life-touch is providing the directory at no cost to our church. Every family photographed receives a complimentary directory and an 8X10 portrait. You can sign up for photography on line at our church website at: www.faithlcrochelle.org

Synod Supports LSSI Nachusa Home

The Northern Illinois Synod Assembly is held in June each year. They will be collecting items that will benefit the children receiving services at Nachusa Lutheran Home, a ministry of Lutheran Social Services of Illinois. Nachusa Lutheran Home hosts two residential facilities. Choices, an adolescent substance abuse program, assists youth who are struggling with drug related issues and Youth Emergency Shelter, or YES, which provides a temporary home to youth involved in the DFS system who are awaiting permanent placement. Items needed: Bath towels (preferably not white), Washcloths, Twin sheets, Pillow/cases, Comforters.

If you would like to make a donation, please place it in the box marked "In Kind Offering". We ask that you have any donations here by June 8th and they will be delivered to the Assembly.

Thank you in advance for your generosity.

Maternity Leave

Pastor Joy will be on maternity leave until mid-July.

Please contact Shawn in the church office (815-562-7575) if you are in need of assistance or have a pastoral care emergency.



Congratulations, Graduates!



We rejoice with those who have shared the news of their graduation with us! Congratulations to Abi Carlson and Ari Esterday who both graduated from RTHS this spring and Matthew Malaker who graduated from St Paul. If you have a graduation that you would like to share with us (middle school, high school, college, etc.), please contact the office (office@faithlcrochelle.org or 815-562-7575).

Outreach

Faith Lutheran in Community Outreach

Thirteen members from Faith gathered at the Rochelle Firemen's Social Hall (6th Ave and 3rd St.) on May 12 (the second Monday) at 4 PM to prepare, set up, and serve almost 90 meals to those who arrived for the Christian Community dinner. The 40 individuals, including families were expecting to receive a hot meal and eat in the company of others. They were not disappointed--last month Faith served beef tips and gravy, rice, vegetable, fruit, and dessert.

The weekly meal always begins with a prayer. A period of table fellowship follows the buffet dinner. Then promptly at 5:40 PM, take-out boxes with the same nutritious meal are given to all who have signed up to take extra meals to shut-ins and neighbors, to anyone who would like to be there but is unable to come. This meal is open to all with no charge and no questions asked.

St. Patrick Catholic Church began this social outreach ministry a few years ago. In the summer of 2013 Vivian Carlson and Nedra Knapp of Faith attended an informational meeting about this ministry. Upon their recommendation and with their leadership and that of Steve Liezert, Faith Lutheran soon began to prepare and serve meals once a month, initially drawing on a list of about twelve volunteers. In addition to Catholics and Lutherans, the United Methodists of Rochelle have recently joined the list of participating churches.

Our congregation's involvement has grown significantly. Drawing on a current list of over sixteen members, Faith is committed to serve the community meal every second Monday of the month. Please consider joining this ministry. The ministry needs you, but please know those needs are flexible. Not everyone can volunteer to be present every time, and that is not expected. Monetary gifts designated to purchase food for this ministry are always welcome; bars or brownies are also needed for the dessert portion.

Faith's team leaders are currently seeking at least three or four additional persons for the list of Faith volunteers, thus making it a bit easier for all concerned. For more information, or to volunteer, talk to a team leader: Vivian Carlson or Nedra Knapp, Steve or Eileen Liezert, Bea or Gene Chaplin, David or Claudia Nelson. Or you can talk to Pastor Joy, Shawn Schabacker, or Michelle Heinrich in the church office.

This is a real opportunity to make Christ known through lives of faith.

OUTREACH MISSION FOR FAITH: Rochelle Food Pantry



JUNE: Ketchup and Mayo

Monetary donations are always appreciated

**Faith Lutheran Church --ELCA
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Summer Worship Schedule through September 7,
one weekly service Sundays at 9:30 a.m.



