



FAITH LUTHERAN CHURCH
120 Faith Drive Columbus WI 53925
Evangelical Lutheran Church
in America – ELCA



Message from Pastor Bob

Dear Friends in Faith,

This past weekend we had some very dear old friends come and stay with us. Lynne and I have known this couple since college. They live in northern Minnesota. As they always do, they brought their dog, Elske, with them.

As old friends do who haven't seen each other for a while, we talked a whole evening about what's been happening since we last saw each other.

Mary told a cute story about their dog. When Elske gets out the door she sometimes is gone for a while; and if her people need to get some where it can be frustrating to get her safely back home so they can leave.

Not long ago Ryan wasn't watching close and the dog escaped through an unguarded door. There wasn't time to wait for Elske to come back on her own, so Mary got in the car and drove around the neighborhood with her head out the window calling "Elske, Elske!"

After a while Mary began to notice that the neighbors who happened to be outside while she drove by were smirking at her. It took a couple of more blocks of driving slowly and calling for the dog before Mary realized what was so funny: While she was anxiously calling for Elske, Elske was trotting along right behind her car, too close to be seen in the rear view mirror!

I knew as soon as I heard that story there was a sermon in there!

That's like our spiritual lives, right? In times when we are anxious, we often set out looking for God, seeming not to see him no matter where we search.

Of course, God hasn't left us at all. While we rummage around anxiously God is right there if we only stopped long enough to take a look! While we think we are searching for God we may, in fact, be running away from him.

I'm going to remember this little story. Will you too? Let's stop conducting our own frantic search. Step on the brake. God will catch up to us.

In Christ,
 Pr. Bob Moberg

FAITH LUTHERAN CHURCH

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FROM BISHOP BRUCE BURNSIDE

(from The South–Central Synod’s January Newsletter)

A few week ago I was in a quite nice restaurant—the kind of restaurant where people are expected to follow certain codes of behavior, the sort of place where one observes proper etiquette. You know the kind of atmosphere I am talking about...there are unspoken expectations in places like that. This is not a location for “making a scene.”

I was invited that evening by John Nunes, CEO of Lutheran World Relief, to be the guest. His wife, Monique, was with us. It was a very pleasant meal, interrupted only for a short while by a panic over a lost credit card. (But that is another story!) We talked about our own families and daily routines, the places we live, but mostly we talked about the work of the Church and in particular, the work of the Church in desperate places throughout the world. Lutheran World Relief is just one of the many ways the Church responds to hunger, disease, disaster and poverty in your world.

At the end of dinner, with only a few sips of coffee left to drink, Pastor Nunes said to me: “People who know my wife often know her because of her beautiful voice. She sings.” I imagined that meant people in the congregation liked to sit near her at worship or that she was a member of the choir...something like that. And maybe that is true, but here is what happened next in that “don’t make a scene atmosphere:” he asked if she would like to sing to me-right there in the restaurant. I expected her to blush, to say no, not here, not now dear. But instead she asked what I would like to hear. Fully unprepared for what was about to take place I simply said: “You are the singer-you choose.” So she began to sing. I mean really sing, belting it out Mehalia Jackson style:

Great is thy faithfulness, O God my Father;

There is no shadow of turning in thee

Thou changest not, thy compassions they fail not;

As thou has been, thou forever wilt be.

Great is thy faithfulness! Great is thy faithfulness!

Morning by morning new mercies I see; all I have needed thy hand hath provided;

Great is thy faithfulness, Lord unto me.

I sat in my chair at the table. She was standing, the song was soaring for anyone, anywhere to hear. John was right-her voice was magnificent. I was holding my breath as she sang.

Several things have remained in my memory, from that not so ordinary experience in a restaurant where diners were. I suppose, expecting nothing like this between courses. Here are two of the memories among many: the bold confession of faith in the words of that hymn that sing out God’s never failing provision for this creation (that’s a good and needed reminder for hard times and new years) and the unabashed willingness of a woman to voice it-gorgeously-with all the air in her lungs even in a “behave yourself” restaurant! (that’s a good and needed reminder for the Church when we are timid and on or overly cautious with God’s expansive grace.)

I think we either believe or we don’t believe that God is faithful. When we do really trust that God is abundantly faithful to us we express it in all kinds of ways-often times even as surprisingly as singing in a restaurant.

The Epiphany word is nothing other than this –get the word out, belt it out, sing it out, tell it, show it, live it...out...out...out where it is not expected, known, or part of the behavioral code.

For Christ’s Sake,

† **Bruce**

Your Bishop

On the Lighter Side...

GOD is busy now!

If you don't know GOD, don't make stupid remarks!!!!!!

A United States Marine was taking some college courses between assignments. He had completed 20 missions in Iraq and Afghanistan. One of the courses had a professor who was an avowed atheist, and a member of the ACLU.

One day the professor shocked the class when he came in. He looked to the ceiling and flatly stated, "GOD, if you are real, then I want you to knock me off this platform... I'll give you exactly 15 minutes."

The lecture room fell silent. You could hear a pin drop.

Ten minutes went by and the professor proclaimed, "Here I am GOD, I'm still waiting."

It got down to the last couple of minutes when the Marine got out of his chair, went up to the professor, and cold-cocked him; knocking him off the platform. The professor was out cold.

The Marine went back to his seat and sat silently. The other students were shocked and stunned, and sat there looking on in silence. The professor eventually came to, noticeably shaken, looked at the Marine and asked, "What in the world is the matter with you? Why did you do that?"

The Marine calmly replied, "GOD was too busy today protecting America's soldiers who are protecting your right to say stupid stuff and act like an idiot. So He sent me."

The classroom erupted in cheers.

New phone numbers

Wendy Corlett—920-210-2940
Pat Corlett—920-319-1011

THE RED TENTERS' BOOKCLUB



Our February selection is *Lipstick in Afghanistan* by Roberta Gately. We will meet Thursday, February 23, 7pm at the home of Joanne Sampson. *New members are welcome to join us.* Call Ruth at 623-3610 for information.



Jan Behl, Dick and Bev Hartl, David and Audrey Jakel, Jim and Helen Setz.

Congratulations!! Enjoy your special day!

Televised Service Times

Digital channel 980

Cable channel 98

Faith's worship services are aired on the following days and times:

Monday @ 10:30am

Tuesday @ 9:00am

Wednesday @ 7:00pm

Thursday @ 1:30pm



Thanks to . . .

-Margaret Miller, Sue Mathwich, Cheryl Hoffman, Maizie Anthon and Dianne Patrick for helping assemble the January NEWSLETTER.

-Sue Frish, Rod Patrick, Marcia McMullen, Maizie Anthon, Melody Tadych and Rett, Erin Bussian and Rod Schubert for helping assemble the annual report.

-to all who undecorated the Christmas trees.

-Linda Huebner, Bev O'Brion, Judy Kaland, Darlene Tjugum, Marcia McMullen, Sally Price, Jan Zahn, Joyce Lienke and Joyce Abegglen for assembling the anniversary pot-luck mailing.

-Melody Tadych for "refreshing" the Quiet Bags.

address changes

Margaret Adam
5833 American Parkway
Madison WI 53718

Yvonne Haakenson
c/o Ann Albert
6902 Whittelsey Road
Middleton WI 53562

Potluck @ Faith

Mark your calendars now for our **Anniversary Pot-Luck/Holy Land** presentation that will take place on Sunday, February 12, at noon. Families with last names A-L bring a main dish and last names M-Z bring a salad OR dessert. Then, after dessert, take a trip to the Holy Land as Pete & Judy Kaland present the second part of their Holy Land trip from 2010.



February

- 1 Mary Kohl
- 2 David Severson
- 4 Ana Tjugum
- 6 Augustus Tadych
- 7 Manson Bruss
- 8 Jenny Erdmann
- 10 Clarissa Hynes
- 11 Nick Cass
- 12 Josh Ritchie
Jeremy Grossman
- 14 Garrett Patrick
- 15 Anna Miller
Carter Hansen
- 16 Karen DeNure
- 19 Ashley Cooper
Kali Hochstatter
Karli Hochstatter
- 20 Elizabeth Elling
- 21 Barb Bergum
- 23 Joyce Lienke
- 25 Jack Roelke
Kelly Stofflet
- 26 Taylor Jansen
Greyson O'Brion
- 28 Merlyn Lienke
Victoria Gillett

Jenny Anthon, Bill Bussian, Jim Setz



PASTORAL ACTS



January 1, 2012

Josephine (Josie) Elizabeth Berget

Parents: Derek and Julie Berget

January 8, 2012

April Mae Campos

January 15, 2012

Nahla Henrietta Kuck

Harlow Noelle Kuck

Parents: Leo and Andrea Kuck

Leo Michael Kuck

January 29, 2012

Beckam Ray Scheeler

Parents: Ivory and Rob Scheeler



January 8, 2012

Kindergarten Bible Presentation

Emily Anthon, Gavin Bruss,

Devin Foulkes, Riley Kaminski,

Ruby Larson, Abigail Miller,

Greyson O'Brion, Samuel Salzman,

Corbin Scheeler, Shavlik Schultz,

Kevin Watrud



January 17, 2012

Muriel Nehring

Jenson Funeral Home



Ayden Adam,
Marissa Bergum,
John Brozek Jr.,
Bill Bussian, Shilo
Cashmore, Joann
Chase, Tony Clark,
Ocean Conley,
Mitchell Cooper,

Mary Destree, Mark Fagerburg, Ni-
cole Farr, Hannah Fox, Patrice Gaug-
er, Kenn Gillett, Kallie Goetsch, Ky-
ana Goetsch, Isabella Gordillo, Mee-
gan Graffin, Jennifer Hasenfuss, Lois
Heiman, Jeff Hein, Scott Hoffman,
Ronda Huebner, Connor Jacobs, Syd-
ney Kluetzman, Jan Kurth, Sue
Mathwich, Tami McNamee, Renee
Meister, Gerald Miller, Megan Mil-
ler, Elizabeth Morris, Ruth Nordal,
Cara O'Brion, Matt Paul, Juliette Pe-
tersen, Sally Price, Donald Reese,
Claire Sampolinski, Betty Schubert,
Jim Setz, Olivia Severson, Jim Smith,
Jodi Smith, John Stark, Ella Steers,
Cliff Sweney, Devin Talg, Chuck
Tiedt, David Utz, Lori Weidemann,
Sara Yuds, Austin Zahn, Bruce Zahn,
Fred Zeidler.

Enjoy your special day!

The Committee on **Social Ministry** will have a meeting on Sunday, **February 5** at 9:30 AM to primarily discuss the expanded Campus Ministry idea. We would like to help stay in contact with our 18-22? year olds that have moved out into the world at college, tech, the military or the work force. If you would like the preparation list of talking points, please contact Scott Mathwich. If time allows, we will also discuss the idea to organize regular work groups for the Second Harvest Food Bank.

Thank you.



2012 Columbus Ecumenical Lenten Series

Theme: *Blessed are the Peacemakers*

Ash Wednesday, February 22

5:30 Meal

7:00pm Olivet Congregational UCC

Repaying no one evil for evil. -Romans 12:17

February 29

5:30 Lenten Meal

7:00 Saint Jerome Catholic Church

Wise as serpents, innocent as doves. -Matthew 10:16

March 7

5:30 Lenten Meal

7:00 Faith Lutheran Church

Blessed are the peacemakers. -Matthew 5:9

March 14

5:30 Meal

7:00 Wisconsin Academy Seventh-day Adventist

Turning the other cheek. -Matthew 5:39-45

March 21

5:30 Meal

7:00 Church of the Nazarene

March 28

5:30 Meal

7:00 Fall River United Methodist Church

First going to your brother alone. -Matthew 18:15-17

Maundy Thursday, April 5

7:00 Faith Lutheran Church-First Communion

Good Friday, April 6

1:00 First Presbyterian Church

7:00 Faith Lutheran Church

Easter Vigil, Saturday, April 7

Dusk-Faith Lutheran Church

Easter Sunday, April 8

Faith Lutheran— 7:30 and 10:00

American Red Cross

Blood Drive

February 23 @ Faith

1. Every two seconds, someone in this country needs blood.
2. Only 5% of the eligible population gives blood, yet 95% of us will need a blood product in our lifetime.
3. Healthy blood donors can give blood as often as every 56 days.

Your next opportunity to help save a life is:

Tuesday, February 23

11:30 a.m. to 5:30 p.m.

Faith Lutheran Church

Together, we can save a life!

NEED SOME HELP? HIRE A YOUTH! Fall is a busy time of year for everyone and sometimes we find ourselves wishing for some help. Thankfully, we have a wealth of capable teens offering their hands! As you know, we have a great group of 15 teens who will be attending the National Youth Conference next summer in New Orleans, and from now until February 1, 2012 these teens have offered their help through the "Hire a Youth" program. Babysitting, yard clean-up, gift wrapping or any other project you may have, this multi-talented bunch is willing to help! For more details or questions, please contact Becky (Seibt) Klosowski at 623-2410 or Sara Yuds at 484-3579. As much notice as possible would be greatly appreciated and donations will be accepted which will help cover the expenses of their upcoming trip. Information cards can be found on the narthex table.





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Faith Lutheran Church
120 Faith Drive
Columbus WI 53925-1602

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Columbus, WI 53925



Return Service Requested

THE FEBRUARY NEWSLETTER

Faith...Serving God...Serving People

Now faith is the assurance of things hoped for, the conviction of things not seen.

Hebrews 11:1



MISSION STATEMENT

Joyfully recognizing God's commitment and faithfulness to us, FAITH LUTHERAN CHURCH exists to serve God through serving God's people. We eagerly work towards the realization of God's Kingdom by:

- Offering praise-filled worship to God.
- Nurturing individual spiritual growth.
- Fostering an environment of caring and acceptance.
- Reaching out to serve the needs of our community.

God's love stirs us to touch others with the same love we have received—and invites them to share our life of praise and service.

Faith Lutheran Church (ELCA) Columbus, Wisconsin

AS MEMBERS OF FAITH LUTHERAN CHURCH WE PROMISE:

- To attend services regularly.
- To support the congregation financially.
- To live responsibly as a Christian witness.
- To become as involved as possible in the total life and work of the congregation.

And this we promise to do by the help of God.

FAITH'S TOP PRIORITY VISIONING GOALS:

- Equip all our members for lifelong spiritual growth and ministry.
- Continue and build upon our tradition of being an accepting congregation that welcomes and serves all.

Adopted March 2010

We're on the web:

faith@faithcolumbuswi.org