



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



MESSAGE FROM PASTOR LISA

Fred Craddock, a famous preaching professor, tells a story about his dad. His dad never went to church. Every Sunday, Fred and his mother and siblings would go to church while his dad muttered, “All the church wants is my money.”

Years later, his dad was dying. Fred walked into the hospital room to find it full of flowers. By the bed was a stack of cards 20 inches deep. All of it was from the church. His dad couldn't speak because of the disease. He reached for the Kleenex box and wrote on its side. “I was wrong.”

The Church is not a building; it is not paid staff; it is not an it. The Church is a gathering of people, who want to know and serve God. The Church is a group of people, who want to follow Jesus. The Church is us.

And the Church does not want you just for your money. The Church wants to help you become closer to Jesus. The Church wants to bring those, who do not yet know Jesus, into relationship with him.

I'd like to tell you about an opportunity to grow closer to Jesus. This winter, starting on January 1, many of us at Faith will be reading the Bible in 90 days. Yes, you read that correctly: 90 days.

For those of you who have never read the whole Bible and who can't imagine committing to something for a year or two. This 90 day adventure may be the way to go.

You can buy the 90 Bible, a somewhat thin, hardcover Bible, which says “stop” every 12 pages. 12 pages a day and you'll be done in 90 days. Or you could read a Bible you already have. Start the day after Christmas and get an early start. Once a week, we will watch a short dvd about the pages you have read that week and talk about the Bible.

It's true, the Church needs your money. We need it because there's lots of ministry to do in Jesus' name. But you need to give because giving brings you closer to Jesus, closer to the one who gives meaning to your life. Giving is how we say, Jesus is Lord of my life, and money is not.

Church is where we give to God. Church is where we listen to God through the Bible. Church is where we worship the God, who leads and loves us. Church is us!

FAITH LUTHERAN CHURCH

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FROM BISHOP BRUCE BURNSIDE

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

A Decade Later: The Crossroad of Fear and Faith was the theme for a community worship service held on September 11, 2011 at the Sun Prairie High School Performing Arts Center. Hosted by Our Savior’s Lutheran Church and the Sun Prairie United Methodist Church, 800 people gathered in a service to remember the past and embrace the future. Following is the sermon that Bishop Burnside delivered.

Jonah 3:10-4:5, 11

Romans 12:17-21

Luke 24:13-35

We never believed-we never imagined-we never thought such a thing would, could happen.

How could we prepare? How would we have been ready? How should we have known?

An answer became known long before two jet planes punctured first one then a second tower; long before the pentagon was attacked, long before brave passengers crashed a fourth airliner into a Pennsylvania field on a lovely September day. Before a mayor was called upon to make monumental decisions, before brave first responders raced with the accompaniment of sirens to melting towers, before the President could speak and a nation of millions could become a television audience, before wives and husbands, mothers, fathers and children held onto phones waiting for a word and before air traffic controllers emptied the skies of all planes, an answer was given. And an answer was planted in our history, already, long before ships were bombed in a quiet Hawaiian Pearl Harbor, an answer long before the grotesque atrocities of death camps and the exterminations of pogroms-yes, an answer long before the slaughtering of innocents whose color or voice or religion or national I.D. made them victims and long before crusades that turned streets into flowing streams of blood, an answer long before each or any of the most heinous chapters of evil were conceived or animated-long before-there was, give, an answer; an answer learned not from Jonah but from Jonah’s God; not from the Romans’ imperial emperor or military forces but from the outlandish apostle Paul preaching to a scandalized culture of fear.

How could we have ever been prepared for any of this? Listen: “...you are a gracious God and merciful, slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love, and ready to relent from punishing...”

How should we know what to do in such a time as we are gathered here today to remember? Listen: “...Do not repay anyone evil for evil but take thought for what is noble in the sight of all...beloved never avenge yourselves...No, if your enemies are hungry, feed them, if they are thirsty, give them something to drink;...do not be overcome by evil, but overcome evil with good.” That is how people of faith at the crossroads know what to do at such moments of fear and hours of terror.

This is not my word; it is the word of God, a word that now a decade later at the crossroads of fear and faith is a haunting, stilling, startling word. Just as it was to Jonah-directed by God to go to Nineveh. That was the capital of Assyria, a place renowned for its brutality. Do you know where God was sending Jonah with a word of grace, and forgiveness? To Iraq and the places we now call Iran and Syria....Go to that treacherous place, the intersection of fears-Iraq, Syria, Iran-Nineveh-Jonah, go there with nothing but God’s love.

Sail to Rome, Paul, preacher of mercy and gentleness, forgiveness and patience and compassion and love-go to the empire that tortures its enemies, and burns living human bodies on poles as torches just for sport of it; an empire that humiliates its wounded and crucifies its prisoners, stand before the marble coated halls and gold-gilded corridors of power with a message not of vengeance but of leniency, with a word not of retaliation but of reconciliation, with a word not of threat but of promise, with a vision not of combat but of peacemaking.

When the unthinkable, the unimaginable, the most evil eruption rises from its pits of hatred, there are these words: “do not be overcome by evil but overcome evil with good.” And there are these words: “work the dark side using any means...” At the crossroads of fear and faith which word will we listen to-the word of God or the word of empire?

You know-we all do know-what it was like...you remember; you can tell your children just where you were, who was

there when the news broke, what you saw, the images that will not go out of focus un your minds eye; the feelings that rushed upon you like raiders out of the shadows, and the panic or was it confusion or was it anger or was it gloom or was it all so much of all of these things that it became instantly numbing alarm? And walking-perhaps first running-away from all of this; you know so well the discussing with one another of all these things that have taken place in theses days...and how the whole world knows—"don't they?" How planes mighty and powerful one, then two, then three, then a fourth, became weapons of carnage misshaping human dreams into devilish night-mares. How our chief priests and leaders handed him over to be condemned to death and crucified him. How our hopes were destroyed and goodness was killed on that ground zero place of death? There evil showed its twisted face. And now the days that have passed since this h as happened...three days, ten years. We have gone to the graves, to every sacred and reminiscent place to the tomb...and there is no solace, no consolation there in the plac-es of death.

On the crossroad of fear and faith, a stranger-yes Jesus himself-appears-unknown, unrecognized, he accompanies them walking along on the road. "You, who are you? Are you the only one-a stranger in Jerusalem-who does not know of all these things that have taken place in these days?" We had hoped....We had hoped....Oh we had hoped....But everything changed. And now we are on this road...

He speaks: "Oh how foolish you are and how slow of heart to believe all that the prophets have declared!" That is the voice of Jesus cutting into all the discussion, slicing the discourse, all the reporting and all the reviewing, all the special editions and documentaries, all the call-in talk shows and tabloids and emails and tweets and recordings that attempt and fail to make sense of such events as these.

And did you notice on that crossroad of fear and faith, when Jesus seems to continue walking ahead, as if he would be going on-he turns and stays with them in their fear and confusion..."stay with us" they plead"it is getting dark, the night is coming upon us-the day is almost over-stay with us." Jesus stays...asking: "Have you forgotten? Oh how foolish you are." But that is not where he leaves us at the end of the day, alone on the road with darkness falling. No, at that moment he shows us once again, himself, the answer found at the crossroads of fear and faith.

At that fearful, faith-testing moment, to know the love of God and trust in it is to become people of love. At the crossroads to know the mercy of God is to become a people who are merciful. In the hour of terror to know God in Jesus Christ as the one who gave himself up for all people is to be a people ready to receive and affirm the worth of all people, even our enemies!

Oh how foolish and slow of heart to believe...

Ten years later we find that we have spent without pause our nation's resources; our wealth and how many lives in long wards that drag on undefined; mosques-houses of worship for our Muslim neighbors are attacked and viewed with suspicion and Arab families in our communities are profiled too often as something other than human children of God and something akin to beings born as terrorists, we have become more and more intolerant of immigrants in a nation made of our immigrant ancestors, we continue to employ torture as an acceptable American strategy and in it all we are no closer to peace in the world or in our hearts-perhaps further from it and we continue to live in fear.

We are at the crossroads of fear and faith, it is time now, on this anniversary before another day passes to choose faith over fear, love over hate, reconciliation over division, forgiveness over retaliation, to be free from our fears and to live a way of life that embraces the teaching and example of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ.

For Christ's Sake,

† *Bruce*

Your Bishop

Welcoming

Michael C. Rehak
Interim Pastor
Redeemer Lutheran Church
Rio, Wisconsin

Just south of DeForest a farm sign recently proclaimed, *If you want a friend, Be a Friend!*

Redeemer is a friendly congregation — that is, many members have deep friendships with other members whom they enjoy seeing. They greet each other warmly, talk freely, and may sit near each other. Redeemer is friendly; at least for those who know each other and for extraverts who tend to talk to others freely.

Visitors, new members, and Introverts do not always find Redeemer to be friendly — that is, *welcoming*. Our socializing with our friends can leave them feeling excluded. Add to that the differences between Extraverts and Introverts. Extraverts tend to initiate conversations; they act to greet others, to meet new people, and openly enjoy their friends. Extraverts will make themselves known in a crowd, while Introverts will try to get lost in a crowd. Introverts tend to hold back responding to people or situations. As a whole Redeemer discloses itself to be more introverted than extraverted, we don't readily initiate with strangers very well; we are not welcoming to those we don't know.

In the first congregation I studied, as I was developing my theories of congregational personalities, an extraverted council member, upon learning the congregation preferred introversion, blurted out at the meeting, "So, you're saying, we need a few more extraverts to advertise that we are the church for introverts." Perhaps — for Introverts rely too heavily on the "Greeters" to do the *welcoming* work for them. However, the answer is not simply about extraverts and introverts; the challenge is much greater.

The Bible does not ask us to be friendly, but the people of God are commanded to welcome strangers; show hospitality. Jesus said, *Whoever welcomes you welcomes me, and whoever welcomes me welcomes the one who sent me.* Matthew 10:40. St Paul encouraged, *Contribute to the needs of the saints; extend hospitality to strangers.* Romans 12:13, and *Welcome one another, therefore, just as Christ has welcomed you, for the glory of God.* Romans 15:7.

If our need on Sunday morning is primarily our relationships with others (at least the ones we get along with) we can say we're a friendly church. If, however, our focus is on being the people of God gathered to praise, to worship, and to be guided by God, then don't we each, extraverts and introverts, have to be the ones who show *hospitality to strangers*? (Sometimes including other members we find *strange* because we do not agree with, or understand, them.)

Is Redeemer God's house in which God welcomes us and we gather excited to see our friends who have also accepted the invitation? Or, is Redeemer a place where we each have been called in baptism to put on Christ — to act the part of the host attending to strangers who enter?

The first function of worship is not to be friendly with each other, but for us to stand before God as *welcomed-strangers* in God's kingdom. We then honor God as we personally invite people to join us at fellowship, to go with us to circle meetings, to help us with projects; being sensitive to the one who sits alone. Being "Welcoming" is including the *strange* and the *stranger*; sharing time with them, getting to know them, and being vulnerable so they can get to know us. It is having room in our lives to make new friends.

Being friendly is great.

Learning to welcome others and show hospitality is PRICELESS! ... and Godly.

SEPTEMBER TREASURE'S REPORT

GENERAL FUND

Beginning balance \$ 6,252.81

INCOME

Receipts 15,133.03

EXPENSES

Disbursements 18,031.67

Ending balance in checkbook \$ 3,354.17

UNPAID BILLS-NONE

Now
is the time!

MEMBERSHIP COVENANT

SIGNING Our annual signing of our Membership Covenant has been set for **Sunday, November 20**. Faith's constitution requires the annual signing of the covenant in order for you to maintain your membership at Faith Lutheran Church. If you can not be present on November 20, the 2012 Covenant will be out in the narthex of the church until the end of December. For those having young adults away from home who wish to retain their membership at Faith, Thanksgiving and Christmas are good times for them to sign.



Announcing our annual **Christmas Memory Making Event!** Join us on Friday, December 2nd at 6pm for chili, hot dogs, cookies and lots of Christmas crafts. Bring the kids; bring the grandkids, invite your friends, make some memories! See Pastor Lisa for details.

2011 LWR (Lutheran World Relief) Packing Day Results:

17 school kits, 145 quilts, 4 health kits, 6 layettes, soap. Thanks to all who donated and to all who packed items on October 4. Special thanks to David Severson, Don and Margaret Miller, Rod and Dianne Patrick for taking the items to the train in Madison.



Sunday, November 6 is a very old and nearly universal festival in the church. It is the most important of the Lesser Festivals. The purpose of All Saints' Day is to remember all those who through the ages have lived and died in the Christian faith. Besides remembering the saints of all ages, All Saints' Sunday is also an appropriate time to remember those who have died during the past year. It is an old custom of the church to remember them by name in the prayers on that Sunday. If you have relatives or friends who have died since November 7, 2010 that you would like to have included in the prayers on Sunday, November 6 please call the church office at 623-3610 before Thursday, November 3.

FYI

We will no longer be collecting yarn and cotton batting for our Prison Outreach program. *Thank you* to all who have donated to this cause in the past.



Congratulations to Derek and Julie Berget on the birth of their daughter **Josephine (Josie) Elizabeth Berget**, born Tuesday, October 11 at Meriter Hospital in Madison. She weighed 6 lbs. 15 oz. and was 19 inches long. Her sibs at home are Drake, Vance and Jadie.



The Faith Youth Group would like to thank everyone who ordered mums during our recent fundraiser for our trip to the 2012 Lutheran Youth Gathering in New Orleans. We would also like to thank Susan Rupp for organizing the fundraiser and getting the beautiful mums.



Thanks to . . .

-Margaret Miller, Ellie Hood, Sue Mathwich, Dianne Patrick, Sally Price, Marcia McMullen, Melody and Rett Tadych, Maizie Anthon and Due Frish for helping assemble the October NEWSLETTER.

-all to donated items for the Lutheran Work Relief (LWR) Clothing Drive.

-Reta Thies, Diane Patrick, Rod Patrick, Maizie Anthon, Sue Frish and Margaret Miller for helping pack the items for the LWR Clothing Drive.

Jim Schieble, Brian, Nancy and Bethany Patrick and Scott Mathwick for working on the road sign painting project.

-Scott Mathwich and his crew for organizing another successful "Fur, Fin and Feathers @ Faith" event.

-to ALL who helped make the Spaghetti Supper another successful event.

-Margaret Miller for sewing the Prayer Pillows.

-Bruce and Jeanne Miller for organizing this year's Spaghetti Supper, and Michelle Hoffman for organizing the famous "Pumpkin Patch."

-Ellie Hood, Dianne Patrick, Sue Frish and Maizie Anthon for helping assemble the Stewardship mailing.

-Melody Tadych for stamping the Stewardship mailing envelopes.

-Melody Tadych for organizing the new pictorial directory and to all who "manned" the sign-in table.

-Ben Van Horn for doing several carpentry requests at the church.

-David Kikkert, Eugene O'Brion, Rod Schubert, Fritz Price and Scott Mathwich for building a new planter.

-Jenny Herzberg for donating and planting the mums in the two flower boxes.



For many, many, many years Faith Lutheran Church has provided you with an opportunity to share God's gifts with others through the GIVING TREE. Once again, the Giving Tree will be in the narthex decorated with colored paper ornaments with names and gift suggestions/ideas for clients who receive assistance from Lutheran Social Services (LSS). Please take an ornament or two and purchase a gift (s)(\$20 limit) for your special person. *We ask that you PLEASE SIGN YOUR NAME AND PHONE NUMBER by the number on the sign-up sheet that corresponds with the number on the ornament . We also ask that you wrap your gift(s), attach the ornament to the gift(s) and place under the tree by Sunday, December 11, thus giving time to deliver the gifts to LSS in Beaver Dam.*



Mark and Bonnie Adam, Bill and Doris Chase, Rick and Georgia Eisenreich, Nina Gordillo, Brandon and Jamine Kurth, Rich and Marcia McMullen, Chris and Tina Miller, John and Colleen Miller, Becky Oehlert, Arlene Oelke, Fritz and Sally Price, David and Deborah Severson, Tom and Joyce Walker, Gary and Kathy Westphal.

Enjoy your special day!

Continue to save your **coupon flyers** from the newspaper! U.S. soldiers can use a coupon up to six months after its expiration date. Our confirmation students will collect the coupon flyers, sort them and mail them to a military base. A box for the coupons can be found by the dividing wall.



November 23 @ 7pm

Faith Lutheran Church will once again be hosting an Ecumenical Thanksgiving Worship Service on Wednesday, November 23 at 7pm. Many of the Columbus clergy will be taking part in the service. Father Steve Kortendick from St. Jerome Catholic Church will be preaching. Special music will be provided by the Faith Choir and Faithful Ringers under the direction of Lisa Weisensel. Please make plans to join us for the worship service of thanksgiving. The Columbus/Fall River Food Pantry is always in need of non-perishable items such as: cereal, pancake mix, syrup, canned fruit, juice, pasta, pasta sauce, peanut butter, jelly, cake mix, frosting, soup, macaroni and cheese, saltine crackers, Jello, spaghetti, spaghetti sauce, tuna, canned chicken, Tuna Helper, Hamburger Helper, Chicken Helper, canned vegetables, rice, instant potatoes We ask that you bring your non-perishable items with you when you come to worship with us on November 23, or drop your items off in the box which is located in the entrance of the church.





NOVEMBER

- 1 Terri Messer
Cindy Nickell
Al Strohschein
Suzanne Zahn
- 2 Richmond Krahenbuhl
Jim Severson
- 5 Kayla Hurckman
- 6 Abigail Miller
- 8 Becky Klosowski
- 9 Erik Rupp
- 10 Dawn Kelsey-Waterman
Zachary Wescott
Lynne Wilken
- 11 Shirley Andler
Kristen Hart
Ashley Hegge
- 13 Ashley Schultz
- 14 Bob Kelsey
- 15 Steve Rowe
Brianna Sweney
- 16 Jack Fritz
- 17 Joel Miller
Tracey Wescott
- 18 Frank Roelke
- 19 Samantha Setz
- 20 Aaron Corlett
Emma Kelly
Julie Berget
Brandon Kurth
- 22 Jesse Hankes
- 26 Hayley Donner
Brooke Goering
Kelsey Donner
Caitlin Ritchie
Blake Luzenski
- 28 Anne Herzberg
Shane Gille
- 29 Caroline Morris
- 30 DeAnn Gaska

PASTORAL ACTS



October 2, 2011

Hallie Jean Graffin
Parents: Connor and Meegan
Griffin

October 9, 2011

Bryella Marie Grossman
Parents: Jeramy and Nikki
Grossman

October 23, 2011

Andrea Louis Herrick
Parents: Richard and Deanna
Herrick



Confirmation Sunday

October 16, 2011

Paden Agnew
Leah Clark
Ben Destree
Kelli Hoffman
Hunter Hurckman
Emma Severson
Aubrey Weidemann
Lindsey Yuds
Andrew Zahn



October 8, 2011

Mark Nostad
Gunderson Funeral Home, Madison

October 11, 2011

Vi Sauer
Graveside Service, Columbus

October 12, 2011

Carolyn Behm
Zeidler -Murray Funeral Home

October 13, 2011

Richard Young
Jensen Funeral Home

THE RED TENTERS' BOOKCLUB



For our November selection we are reading *Battle Hymn of the Tiger Mother* by Amy Chua. We will meet Thursday, November 17, 7pm at the home of Retta Thies. New Members are always welcome to join us. Call Ruth at 623-3610 or 623-5247 for additional information.



Glenn Andler, Maizie Anthon, Colin Brumm, Bill Byrne, Natalie Cass, Doris Chase, Lynn Dhein, Hayley Donner, Linda Durtschi, Elizabeth Elling, Susan Fagerburg, Devin Foulkes, Shane Gille, Michael Hansen, Roger Hasz, Deanna Herrick, Sarah Hoene, Ryan Huebner, Clarissa Hynes, Brianna Jakel, Judy Kaland, Ben Kohl, Brandon Kurth, Eric Mathwich, Tim Mathwich, Marcia McMullen, Joel Miller, Trevor Miller, Andy O'Brion, Greyson O'Brion, Erica Patrick, Garrett Patrick, Chantz Peterson, Josh Ritchie, Mike Ritchie, Ivy Roelke, Ryder Rozinski, Travis Schultz, Daryl Severson, Claire Westlake.

Happy Birthday!

On the Lighter Side...

Jesus Loves Me—Senior Version

Jesus love me, this I know,
Though my hair is white as snow.
Though my sight is growing dim,
Still He bids me trust in Him.

YES, JESUS LOVES ME.
YES, JESUS LOVES ME.
YES, JESUS LOVES ME FOR THE BIBLE
TELLS ME SO.

Though my steps are oh, so slow,
With my hand in His I'll go.
On through life, let come what may,
He'll be there to lead the way.

YES, JESUS LOVES ME.
YES, JESUS LOVES ME.
YES, JESUS LOVES ME FOR THE BIBLE TELLS
ME SO.

When the nights are dark and long,
In my heart He puts a song.
Telling me in words so clear,
"Have no fear, for I am near."

YES, JESUS LOVES ME.
YES, JESUS LOVES ME.
YES, JESUS LOVES ME FOR THE BIBLE TELLS ME
SO.

When my work on earth is done,
And life's victories have been won.
He will take me home above,
Then I'll understand His love.

YES, JESUS LOVES ME.
YES, JESUS LOVES ME.
YES, JESUS LOVES ME FOR THE BIBLE TELLS
ME SO.

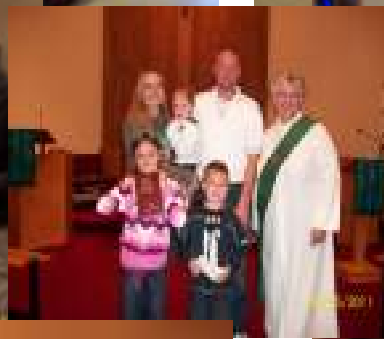
I love Jesus, does He know?
Have I ever told Him so?
Jesus loves to hear me say,
That I love Him every day.

YES, JESUS LOVES ME.
YES, JESUS LOVES ME.
YES, JESUS LOVES ME FOR THE BIBLE TELLS
ME SO.



QUILT SUNDAY OCTOBER 2: The following women have worked hard during the year making 148+ quilts for LWR (Lutheran World Relief) which will be set to third world countries. Quilts were also made and given to our senior grads as a gift from the congregation. Top Picture (left to right) Jeanne Jones, Maizie Anthon, Betty Baxter, Sally Price, Dianne Patrick. Bottom Picture (left to right) Ellie Hood, Jan Ulrich and Dianne Patrick. Not shown but other helpers were Marcia McMullen, Betsy Woodward, Eva Van Horn, Sue Frish and Marjorie Westphal. Special thanks for Mae Opel and Margaret Schey for their many years of service.

WONDERFUL ACTIVITIES AT FAITH: - THIRD GRADE BIBLE INTRODUCTION AND PRESENTATION; PRAYER PILLOWS FOR 4 AND 5 YEAR OLDS; LUTHERAN WORLD RELIEF LWR) PACKING DAY OF ITEMS BEING SENT TO THIRD WORLD COUNTRIES.





FAITH LUTHERAN CHURCH

Faith Lutheran Church
120 Faith Drive
Columbus WI 53925-1602

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Return Service Requested

THE NOVEMBER 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