



FAITH LUTHERAN CHURCH
 120 Faith Drive Columbus WI 53925
 Evangelical Lutheran Church
 in America – ELCA
 South-Central Synod of Wisconsin



MESSAGE FROM PASTOR BOB

Dear Friends in Faith,

One year from this month, I turn 66 years old. UNBELIEVABLE!

That means in April of 2017 I will be eligible for full Social Security and will be retiring sometime next year. It won't be in April, after all Easter is on April 16th in 2017! But it might be as summer is beginning in June or ending in September. It is even possible that I might want to delay my retirement until after the end of October in order to still be "in the saddle" when the 500th anniversary of the Protestant Reformation comes around.

Likely, I'll have made the decision about when exactly I will be retiring by the end of this coming summer. However that decision goes, I know that at some point in 2016 I will be saying – probably weekly – something like "Well, that's the last St. Swithun's Day I'll be celebrating in my ministry!"

Let me start you thinking about a few things that I have been thinking about:

First, I have been at Faith so long (I came in February of 1985) that I know the Synod will insist a long interim pastorate after I leave. This Synod has some excellent pastors whose entire ministry is to serve as interim pastors! Sometimes they come to serve after there has been conflict that has led to a pastor leaving a congregation. Then their job is to help the congregation heal and move on in a healthy way.

In our case – thank you Lord for your blessings – that won't be the situation at Faith! Instead, the interim pastors job will be to help Faith prepare for a major change in ministry style. Whoever the next senior pastor is at Faith, he or she will not be me. Sounds like something Captain Obvious would say, doesn't it? But, what that means is that they will have different strengths and weaknesses than I do. Their sense of what God has called them to do in ministry will be different than mine.

Some folks, thinking no doubt about the model that the business community would use, have wondered why Faith wouldn't just interview candidates and have someone lined up and waiting to take my position as soon as I leave. The answer to that wondering occurred to me the other day. I grant you that it sounds a bit melodramatic, but give it some thought:

Suppose your spouse were dying, slowly but inevitably, from some terminal illness. You would not say to yourself, "I better have a new spouse lined up and ready to marry by the time this one dies!"

Clearly, that would be a recipe for a disastrous relationship!

That is what a pastor and a congregation are to each other. Only superficially is it an employee/ employer arrangement. The essence of ministry is relationship! There is much similarity to a marriage.

The church knows from long experience that the pastor who follows immediately on the heels of a long-serving pastor WILL BE AN INTERIM PASTOR! The question is only: Will it be an intentional or unintentional interim?

Think of this: In 2016 a Faith member would have to be nearly 40 years old to really remember any fulltime pastor here other than me. Isn't that an amazing thought?

One of my goals for 2016 is to help the people of Faith Lutheran Church, whom I love so dearly and have served so long, prepare for the kind of change that hasn't happened here in 31 years.

I will come back to this subject in future newsletters during this year.

Peace,

Pr. Bob Moberg

FAITH LUTHERAN CHURCH

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The “Pres Sez”

Getting lost in the details

What stroke would you choose if your boat sank in the middle of the lake? The crawl, the side stroke, breast or back? Growing up in Sheboygan on the shores of Lake Michigan meant that the young were taught to swim, period. As a result I love the water but now it has be 85, not the 65 I found acceptable at 12. As Scouts at Camp RoKiLio, we had to learn all the strokes with two lessons per day during our week at camp. At the end of our week an optional challenge was to swim across Cedar Lake accompanied by people in canoes, scouting includes being safe. Swimming across a lake presents a challenge in navigating. If one side of your body is slightly stronger than the other, you could swim in circles. I'm right handed and right armed, so I tend to swim in a leftward arc. The swim instructors taught us to compensate by keeping our eye on a landmark either ahead or behind us. Since I liked the backstroke, I would pick out a cottage or tall tree to line up with my toes as a way of maintaining a straight path. It works, but I never made it across Cedar Lake. I blame my lack of bodily buoyancy because my body density matches the density of water about one foot below the surface.

When I swim through life, I find that I can easily drown in the details. Despite all the modern conveniences, the tasks of daily living has just changed in type not number. To-do lists can become to-doodle lists without a good sense of priorities and purpose. Our culture injects more must-haves and must-dos than anyone can handle. We even have an acronym for a common cause of anxiety, F.O.M.O., Fear Of Missing Out. Buzzfeeds, Instagrams and Facebook postings now fill a part of many days, replacing time for visits and phone calls. It is hard to turn our smart phones off.

As Christians we have an advantage when swimming through the world's sea of noise and distraction. We can stay the course towards holiness by keeping our eyes on the right landmark... Jesus. Let's swim together, let's stay safe in the world by remaining close to our Faith community.

COUNCIL HIGH-LIGHTS

March 08, 2016

Pastoral Compensation contracts were updated and approved according to the 2016 spending plan.

Ruth Nordal was confirmed to continue as the Financial Secretary until our Church Secretary is established in her new position.

Approval was given to extend an offer of employment for our Church Secretary opening.

The Multi-media team was given final approval to purchase larger tv's for the Overflow Area and the Meeting Room according to the 2016 spending plan.

2016 Council Shepard Assignments were approved

JANUARY TREASURER'S REPORT

GENERAL FUND

Beginning Balance	\$ 4,120.11
Deposit in Transit	\$ -
Transfer to/from Savings	\$ -
Transfer from Faith Projects	\$ -
Current Month Receipts	\$ 17,567.67
Disbursements	<u>\$ 19,747.48</u>
BALANCE	\$ 1940.30

Faith Scrip Shoppers!

Scrip sales will return the normal schedule on Sunday, April 3rd.

If you need some awesome scrip before then, please let me know and we can work out a plan.

Don't forget to shop online at ShopWithScrip.com. It is a super easy to use tool. Ask me for your password. Also, MyScripWallet.com is a fun way to use your scrip e-cards on the go.

LUTHERDALE BIBLE CAMP announces on-line summer camp registration is now open. Call 262-742-2352 or go to www.lutherdale.org or info@lutherdale.org. You can register your family members for any of their great summer camp programs by opening an account just for you. This system gives you control of your account allowing you to update it at any time. You can register, make payments, check on your account status any time from any where you have internet service. If you have a child finishing grades 3-12 and planning on attending Lutherdale Bible Camp or another church camp this summer please contact Ruth in the office to receive a \$100 scholarship toward camp cost. Brochures for 2016 summer camp @ Lutherdale are here and can be found on the kiosk counter. *Please help yourself!*

BOOK CLUB

THE RED TENTERS' BOOKCLUB

Our April selection is "A Confession of an ugly Stepsister" by Gregory Maguire. We will meet Thursday, April 28, 7pm at the home Ruth Nordal. *New members are always welcome to join us.*





Aaron Abegglen,
 Delany Agnew,
 Paden Agnew,
 Cooper Anthon,
 Megan Apel, Nolan
 Apel, Brielle Ber-
 get, Paul Bergum, Carmen Briones,
 Todd Brumm, Gavin Bruss, Henry
 Elling, Henry Craig Elling, Derek
 Foulkes, Sheri Fritz, Sophia Conley,
 Caden Conner, Kendall Carter,
 Joshua Corlett, Lori Gasser, Stella
 Gille, Molly Graffin, Donna Hanks,
 Lauren Hansen, Katerina Hart, Bev
 Hartl, Danielle Hein, Pat Hurckman,
 Joan Hynes, Larry Hynes, Collin Ja-
 cobs, Audrey Jakel, Jeanne Jones,
 Jamie Knudson, Norma Krahenbuhl,
 Brodie Krakow, Roger Kurth, Pam
 Larson, Scott Mathwich, Pastor Bob,
 Becky Oehlert, Abigail Olson, Ash-
 ley Olson, Nancy Patrick, Rachel
 Paul, Amy Roelke, Chris Roelke,
 Brant Rosenberry, Ava Rozinski,
 Treyton Rozinski, Jonathan Schellin,
 Pat Schellin, Kailey Schroud, Lisa
 Sebranek, Kenzie Severson, Kylie
 Severson, Judy Sullivan, Beth Si-
 mons, Todd Sweney, Troy Tadych,
 Dianne Tiedt, Daria Utz, Dan
 Watrud, Kevin Watrud, Ron
 Weiland, Harley Woodward.

Enjoy your special day!

Property Meeting

Thursday, April 14 starting at 6:45
 pm and ending by 8:15.

If you have any questions, please
 contact Scott Mathwich.

All are welcome to attend!



April

- 1 Bailey Wilson
 Ashley Alvarez
 Jarod Alvarez
 Samantha Alvarez
 Gerald Miller
 Drake Berget
 Chuck Tiedt
- 3 Doris Chase
 Ocean Conley
 Savannah Conley
 Chris Ducat
 Corbin Hynes
 Liz Mitchell
 Tom Hole
 Zachary Hole
- 4 Rich McMullen
 Gene Boelte
- 5 Nicole Schiesl
 Eric Yerges
- 8 Andrew Peterson
- 10 Brianna Jakel
- 14 Delaney Agnew
 Paden Agnew
 Isabella Gordillo
 Scott Hoffman
 Rhonda Huebner
 Becky Stark
 Marilyn Weiland
- 15 Brynna Gonzalez
 Todd Morris
 Eric Weihert
- 17 Ahrora Scheeler
 Brody Scheeler
- 18 Ryder Rozinski
- 19 Emogene Johnson
 Mark McNamee
 Wyatt Graffin
 Colt Peterson
 Jim Smith

- 20 John Stark
 Carmen Briones
 Judy Seier
 - 21 Marissa Aeschlimann
 Lillian Schuster
 - 24 Jenny Hasenfuss
 Toni Peterson
 - 25 Nikki Grossman
 - 27 Emma Severson
 Joan Hynes
 Bodie Krakow
 - 28 Tori Talg
 Holly Schuster
 Eugene O'Brion
 - 29 Kraig Kahl
 - 30 Corbin Scheeler
- Joann Chase, Judy Fiedler, Martin
 Powers, Bruce Zahn

Thanks to . . .

-Sue Mathwich, Dianne Patrick,
 Marcia McMullen, Betty Rahn and
 Sue Frish for helping assemble
 the March Newsletter
 To all who purchased the Easter
 Lilies.
 Faith Lutheran Youth for serving
 brunch on Palm Sunday.



Jill Abegglen, Glenn and
 Shirley Andler, John and
 Shontell Baeseman, Kris
 Behrendt, Joe and Mary
 Destree, Brian and Dawn
 Donner, Lori Gasser, Mi-
 chael and Kristin Hansen, Jenny Herzberg,
 Richmond and Norma Krahenbuhl, Scott
 and Sue Mathwich, Steve and Cindy Nickell,
 Eugene and Beverly O'Brion, Jackie and
 Jamie Price, John and Becky Stark, Pat and
 Judy Sullivan, Dwane and Debbie Talg.

Congratulations!

PASTORAL ACTS



March 24, 2016

First Communion Class

Cooper Anthon

Sophia Gille

Wyatt Graffin

Tylar Haskins

Kaleb Kohl

Cooper Krakow

Alex Lewke

Mia Powers

Kaylee Price



February 29, 2016

Kenneth A. "Ike" Eilenfeldt

at Savanna Oaks

March 19, 2016

William "Bill" Hoene

March 21, 2016

Lavina Frey at Koepsell-Zeidler

Women's Night Out

We will have another Women's Night Out on April 18th. It will be at Kestrel Ridge in the lower level. Fellowship will be from 5:30 to 6:30 and order off the menu at 6:30. You can come anytime to eat, in case you get off work later. Feel free to bring a friend. If you need a ride contact a member of the Evangelism Committee and we will have someone pick you up.

Please sign up on the sheet on the table in the Narthex. Kestrel would like an approximate number of people. Thank you, Joyce

On the Lighter Side...

Singing in

Church

A minister decided to do something a little different on Sunday morning. He said, "Today, in church, I am going to say a single word and you are going to help me preach. Whatever single word I say, I want you to sing whatever hymn comes to your mind."

The pastor shouted out "CROSS." Immediately the congregation started singing in unison, "THE OLD RUGGED CORSS."

The pastor hollered out "GRACE." The congregation began to sing "AMAZING GRACE, HOW SWEET THE SOUND."

The pastor said "POWER." The congregation sang "THERE IS POWER IN THE BLOOD."

The pastor said "SEX." The congregation fell into total silence. Everyone was in shock. They all nervously began to look around at each other, afraid to say anything.

Then all of a sudden, way from in the back of the church, a little old 87 year old grandmother stood up and began to sing "PRECIOUS MEMORIES."

Gotta love little old ladies.

Laugh.....it burns calories.

Update from the Finance Committee: We thank the Holy Spirit for a generous congregation. Last month was a busy one for the financial volunteers. We ran a slight deficit last month, and ask you to keep the church in your thoughts and prayers for the upcoming months.

	2016		2015	
	Needed Monthly	Giving	Needed Monthly	Giving
January	\$19,584.00	\$19,741.42	\$18,785	\$14,924.10
February	\$19,584.00	17,567.67	\$18,785	\$16,477.53
March			\$18,785	\$23,404.52
April			\$18,785	\$20,593.67
May			\$18,785	\$21,882.49
June			\$18,785	\$15,555.36
July			\$18,785	\$16,656.95
August			\$18,785	\$20,284.72
September			\$18,785	\$14,109.66
October			\$18,785	\$19,988.85
November			\$18,785	\$21,659.35
December			\$18,785	\$31,928.31

WANTED!

The property committee is attempting to seek additional help for the maintenance of the church grounds. The area around Faith has been divided into 'bite size morsels' with the hope of getting individuals and/or families to 'adopt' one or more of those morsels.. This may include leaf/stick pick up, weeding, flower planting, trimming after the lawn is mowed .. If you want to change the look of something or spruce it up, let's talk about it! The sign up sheet (s) are in the narthex on the table. We encourage you to look at the areas, find a small piece of Faith that you can take ownership of and beautify it for others to see! If you have questions see Scott Mathwich or Libby Gilbertson

NEEDED

Bring in gently used job interview clothes and work clothes including boots and jeans during the month of April. Bicycles too are welcome. We will be taking them to Porchlight, a ministry to the homeless in Madison.

Parents and 4th and/or 5th graders on April 10th during the Sunday School hour in the back of the fellowship hall. I promise a fun time focused on forgiveness—complete with a game show and prizes. This is an important time for you and your child to grow together in the faith. Don't miss out! Pastor Lisa.



FAITH LUTHERAN CHURCH

Faith Lutheran Church
120 Faith Drive
Columbus WI 53925-1602

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Columbus, WI 53925

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Return Service Requested

THE APRIL 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.

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

Hebrews 11:1

FAITH'S TOP PRIORITY VISIONING GOALS:

1. Equip members for lifelong spiritual growth and ministry.
2. Continue being an accepting congregation that welcomes and serves all.
3. Develop a climate of joyful giving - money, time and talent.
4. Use our facility to minister to the needs of the community.
5. Develop a site and facility plan, including potential expansion.
6. Work towards building intergenerational activities and relationships.
7. Be a driving force within the ecumenical group to address community needs.
8. Continue and expand our engaging and varied worship life.

Adopted March 2010

We're on the web:

faith@faithcolumbuswi.org