

Following Faith

The Monthly Newsletter of
Faith Lutheran Church

APRIL 2013



Dialogue Continued

A story is told of a newly arrived missionary worker assigned as chaplain to a leper hospital in Africa. She was well received by this socially marginalized community, except for one patient, who refused to respond at all. He was a former village leader who had lost power and privilege in his world, including his legs due to amputation. Every attempt to communicate with the former chieftain was met with immediate rejection. His bitterness was obvious, until one day the chaplain responded in a way totally unexpected. She simply knelt down and stretched herself onto the ground next to the man where he was lying. They both lay there in silence, the sun scorching their skin. Finally, the wounded leper could no longer contain himself, "What are you doing?" he barked. The young woman responded calmly, "I thought it might be good if I saw the world from your point of view." From that moment on, their relationship changed. From that moment on, a dialogue began and a bond formed.

"I thought it might be good if I see the world from your point of view." Certainly there are times when we find such words most intriguing and inviting, especially when we can use more than a little understanding. However, what made the chaplain's words especially enticing was her willingness to go to the ground, to feel the scorching sun, to experience being brought low. Such action brought credibility to her intention. In a word, she became *believable*. For the same reason, we say, "The Word became flesh." In a word, Jesus becomes *believable* ... because He willingly began where we began and willingly ended where we will not have to end. He has been where we are in life, wherever that is. He has gone to the ground, literally. And now through his Spirit, He is where we are. Best of all, through his Spirit, He's available for dialogue. What better way to gain understanding, peace of mind, confidence for the future? Blessings as we live in and through that Spirit!

Pastor Steve



Faith Lutheran Church
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Troy, New York 12182
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Sunday morning worship: 10:30 a.m.
Adult Bible Study: 9:15 a.m.
Sunday School: during worship

The Rev. Stephen L. Cordes, Pastor

Church Council Officers:

David Truland (President)
Beth King (Vice President)
Barbara Boord (Treasurer)
Diana Rieker (Secretary)
Fred Howard (Financial Secretary)

Council Members

Joyce Duncan (InReach/OutReach)
Bill Jarosz (Property)
Beth King (OutReach/InReach)
Bev Lanteigne (Property)
Sara Martin (Education)
Michael Moroskey (Property)
Carolyn Rouse (History)
David Truland (Missions)
Donna VanZandt (Worship)
Stephanie Wagar (Stewardship)

AMONG OUR PEOPLE

Sick and Recuperating: **Julia Cannon** continues as a resident of Eddy Nursing Home with very limited mobility. She is once again under Hospice Care. **Glen Peysner** is home following some corrective surgery on his collar bone, however is currently suffering from vertigo. **Mark Lastrup** is home following surgery, however he has had further complications with pneumonia and congestive heart failure. **Vicky Steele** has been in and out of Albany Medical Hospital and rehabilitation recently. As of this writing she is in CCU at Albany Medical.

COUNCIL SUMMARY

The earliest the Brooks Barbecue can be held is late summer due to Brook's schedule being full until that timeframe. The Council discussed the possibility of scheduling the barbecue for Labor Day weekend and combining with a garage sale and/or bake sale.

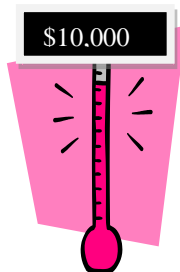
Work has begun on construction of the handicap accessible bathroom. The Decorating Committee picked out the color scheme for tile, paint, countertops and stall partitions. The contractor is planning on three weeks for construction.

The Council asked if any Council member(s) were interested in attending the Synod Assembly. Each year, in addition to Pastor Cordes, a male and female Synod voting member is sent to Rochester. With no volunteers from the Council, the option to attend will be offered to interested members of the congregation.

For any concerns or problems, please advise us. We will discuss and address issues at our next meeting on Monday April 8, 2013 at 7pm.

Diana Rieker, Secretary

CONGREGATIONAL FUND DRIVE



Individual Contributions for the Handicapped Accessible Bathroom and bathroom renovations are continuing. For the first 3 weeks of the drive, approximately \$3,000 has been raised toward the \$10,000 goal. As of March 19th, it is anticipated that both the handicapped

accessible and re-arranged men's restroom will be completed by Holy Week. The renovation of the women's restroom will be started after Easter.

ADULT BIBLE STUDY

The Adult Bible class meets each Sunday morning at 9:15 in the Fellowship Hall. The group continues the study of Exodus. Come and join in the study of the Scriptures.

SERVING FAITH

April 7	Altar	Pat Brundige, Kay Young, Karen Cordes
	Lay Assistant	Pat Turcotte
	Ushers	Pauline Lupo, Nadeen Thompson
	Counters	Evelyn & Bill Jarosz
	Coffee Hour	Heather & Errol Bull
April 14	Altar	Pat Brundige, Kay Young, Karen Cordes
	Lay Assistant	Rich Anderson
	Ushers	Irene Pagel, Carol Perrott
	Counters	Irene Pagel, Carolyn Rouse
	Coffee Hour	Sara & John Martin
April 21	Altar	Merilyn Niles, Helen Inglis, Evelyn Jarosz
	Lay Assistant	Aaron Cordes
	Ushers	Ron Moss, Bill Speanburg
	Counters	LouAnn Behrens, Janet Walsh
	Coffee Hour	Rikke Franklin
April 28	Altar	Merilyn Niles, Helen Inglis, Evelyn Jarosz
	Lay Assistant	Donna Gibson
	Ushers	Donna Truland, Mike Moroskey
	Counters	Joyce Duncan, Carol Perrott
	Coffee Hour	Donna & Bob Gibson

FLOWERS FOR APRIL

April 7: To the Glory of God

April 14: To the Glory of God

April 21: To the Glory of God

April 28: To the Glory of God



WOMEN OF THE ELCA

The Women of the ELCA continued the Bible Study on the Book of Mark. We are taking our time and most of the lessons take us two sessions to complete. That way we are able to use most of the "if time permits" sections.

Mother Nature did reduce attendance at the March meeting. Hopefully that's that last time we'll have to deal with snow for this season. The next meeting will be on Tuesday, April 16 at 10 am at church.

We will be preparing lunch and dinner for the guests at Joseph's House on Saturday, May 4. After Easter a sign-up sheet will be on the bulletin board for anyone who can contribute needed items for the meal. Thank you to everyone who can help with this annual project.

April 20 is the Quilt for LWR Day at church. We'll be cutting, sewing, layering, binding, and tying quilts that day. Many thanks for the fabric and supplies that have already been contributed. We will begin at 10 AM that day and make as many quilts as we can. Come be part of the assembly line and help Lutheran World Relief reach their goal of 500,000 quilts this year. The need is great around the world.



DINNER CLUB

The traditional St. Patrick's dinner was enjoyed in March. Many thanks to the committee of Helen Inglis, Marilyn Niles, Sally Davis, LouAnn Behrens, June Goyette, Pastor Steve and Michele & Fred Howard for the delicious meal and entertainment.

The April meeting is on Saturday, April 13 at church. Bev Lanteigne, Janet Walsh, Carol and Ron Karpfen, Donna VanZandt and Jim Peters are on the committee. Make your reservation with one of these folks and join us for an evening of good fellowship and good food.



By the time you read this newsletter, Easter may already be behind us. Since the newsletter will be printed out prior to Easter, I have no news on how the Easter activities went, but I will be positive and say that the Easter Egg hunt went well and we had lots of Easter themed handouts for the kids and any child guests on Easter Sunday. Let's hope my predictions came true!

The Sunday School is planning an activity for the springtime, most likely a bowling outing. More details on this as they become available, but this activity would be open to all in the congregation, not just the Sunday School kids and their parents.

We have already collected a few dozen eggs filled with change for our March of Dimes fundraiser. We should have a total to share with you for the next newsletter. Thank you to all of those who donated your dimes (or other forms of currency), and thanks to those who donated, helped pass out and helped collect eggs.

Attendance continues to be good and we hope that it keeps up. Spring is a busy time for many families, but hopefully your schedule will include Sunday School.

If you have any questions or would like to help out in any way, please let me know (s.martin@hvcc.edu, or 222-8566).

Happy Spring!

Sara Martin
Education Director



OUR FAITH AT WORK

Our mission offerings for the month of April will be directed toward ELCA World Hunger.

ELCA World Hunger responds to hunger and poverty in the United States and around the world by addressing root causes. Through a comprehensive program of relief, development, education, and advocacy, people are connected to the resources they need to lift themselves out of poverty. Between 70-75 percent of ELCA World Hunger funds are spent internationally, and 20-25 percent are spent here in the United States.

The international work of ELCA World Hunger is carried out through ELCA companion relationships as well as through trusted partners like Lutheran World Relief (LWR) and The Lutheran World Federation (LWF). Because of these long-held connections to partners around the world, ELCA World Hunger efforts are efficient and effective.

The domestic work of ELCA World Hunger is carried out primarily through the Domestic Hunger Grants Program (relief, development, and community organizing projects) and Education and Advocacy Grants.

ELCA World Hunger responds to Christ's call to "Go and do likewise" (Luke 10:37), serving with compassion people who are most vulnerable, paying focused attention to the full participation of women and the needs of children.

David Truland, Missions Chair

APRIL EVENTS

Mon	April 8	Council @ 7pm
Sat	April 13	Dinner Club @ 6:30 pm
Tues	April 16	WELCA @ 10 am
Sat	April 20	LWR Quilt Day @ 10 am

NEWSLETTER DEADLINE

The May newsletter deadline is **Sunday, April 22nd**. Please place your articles in the box in the Church office by Sunday, or email them to DSGLVA@aol.com by Monday morning.