

# Following Faith

The Monthly Newsletter of  
Faith Lutheran Church

April 2012



**"Feeling gratitude and  
not expressing it is like  
wrapping a present  
and not giving it."  
William Arthur Ward**

As most of you know, I just turned 30 years old... in the ministry that is. Yes, hard to believe but true, 30 years of preaching, teaching, counseling, marrying, burying, baptizing, sharing the bread and cup, trying to lead meetings, (striving to survive some), always hoping to say the right word, rarely having the wisdom to bite my tongue, yet certainly wishing I had done so more often. There have been a lot of late nights and always, always early Sunday mornings... too early. I have been befriended by so many along the way, my best fortune indeed. I regret being the cause of misunderstanding or hurt feelings, a human flaw that we never conquer in and of ourselves. Forgive me. Given it all, this vocation has been such a rich, rich experience. Almost never have I been bored, more than once have I thought I was outside of my league, and always, the adventure is more than I could have ever imagined. Throughout it all, God has been gracious and so have you. Thank you. I can not say it loud enough, often enough, or with any more conviction. To you, all of you who have shared in the journey, all of you who have spoken a good word, acted in a caring way, given of your time and self to any one and everyone, all because of the Word and Sacrament we are privileged to gather around, thank you. Because when all is said and done, it is that same Word that we have been gifted to speak and share with one another that wins the day. In spite of the fact that our own words are often insufficient, tangled and tainted, yet by the grace of God, Jesus manifests and that final word comes through, "He has risen, and so shall we!" Thanks be to God!

Now that I've turned 30 years in the ministry I wonder what next. After all, 30 years is a significant number in terms of coming of age. Jesus began his ministry at 30. David became king at 30. Joseph



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50 Leversee Road  
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**Sunday morning worship: 10:30 a.m.  
Sunday School: 9:15 a.m.**

The Rev. Stephen L. Cordes, Pastor

#### **Church Council Officers:**

**Robert Gibson (President)  
Beth King (Vice President)  
Barbara Boord (Treasurer)  
Diana Rieker (Secretary)  
Fred Howard (Financial Secretary)**

#### **Council Members**

**Errol Bull (Property)  
Joyce Duncan (InReach/OutReach)  
Bill Jarosz (Property)  
Beth King (OutReach/InReach)  
Sara Martin (Education)  
Carolyn Rouse (History)  
David Truland (Missions)  
Donna VanZandt (Worship)  
Stephanie Wagar (Stewardship)**

**Sunday School is at 9:15 am (6<sup>th</sup> gr. – adult)  
10:30 am (5<sup>th</sup> gr. & under)**

**Sunday morning worship is at 10:30 am**

stood before Pharaoh at 30. I, myself, ran the bulls in Pamplona, Spain, at 30. (Maybe I thought I was old enough to die.) As for coming of age in the ministry, I must say I have received no sudden revelations or visions, but who knows? One thing I do know, I have been greatly blessed. Thank you all for recognizing this milestone and giving me an opportunity to pause and reminisce, give thanks, and realize how fortunate we are. For the outpouring of good wishes, such gracious gifts, (especially the engraved watch), and the joyous and extravagant celebration on March 4, I am especially grateful. Believe me, all this has made me think! So in that vein I offer a quote that captures the essence of my thoughts and experience. "Give thanks for a little and you will find a lot." *The Hausa of Nigeria* Believe me, I have discovered more than I ever thought possible!

*Pastor Steve*

### AMONG OUR PEOPLE

**Sick and Recuperating:** **Julia Cannon** continues under Hospice Care at the Eddy Nursing Home. **Lois Ambuhl** continues her regiment of chemotherapy while responding well and feeling well. **Dottie Polk** underwent surgery in late February, is recuperating well, and has received a very encouraging prognosis. **Don Zepf** continues to improve at home as he receives rehabilitation. Don suffered a fall which resulted in some broken bones. **Gunther Pagel** has improved greatly after being hit with an episode of vertigo. He is almost back 100%. His twin brother, **Rolf**, just had heart surgery involving a valve replacement. **Beverly Lanteigne** was in Seton Hospital (St. Mary's) briefly to check on some severe back pain. She is home and expects to receive physical therapy. **Sally Widman**, Fred Howard's sister, has been diagnosed with an unusual blood disease, and is currently being treated. **Pastor Richard Scheu** is back in St. Peter's Hospital suffering from heart and kidney complications. Please keep all of these in your daily prayers.

**Death:** **Eileen Thompson** died Thursday morning, March 15, at Van Rensselaer Manor. She had been having some problems with congestive heart failure a couple of weeks prior to her passing. Eileen had just celebrated her 99th birthday this past January 26 and we were all expecting her 100th! Such was her spirit. Her funeral was on March 20 in Shaboygen, Wisconsin, where she had spent most of her adult life and where her husband is buried. Our sympathies especially go out to Nadeen and her three brothers, Jim, Tom, and Paul. Nadeen cared for her mother so wonderfully and thoroughly throughout all their time of living in this area. Visits to Eileen were always entertaining as she had a never

ending supply of interesting stories to tell. She thoroughly understood the game of football and so much enjoyed her Green Bay Packers! There was always something to talk about with Eileen. Pastor will especially miss her company at the Manor.

### HOLY WEEK SCHEDULE

**Maundy Thursday** Worship will be held at Faith on April 5, at 7:00 p.m. Holy Communion will be celebrated. Evangelical and Faith combined choir will offer an anthem. At the end of the service we will Strip the Altar, removing as many as possible of the symbols and decor of the worship area. This act is to depict the surrender of power that Christ offers up in order to sacrifice himself for the world.

**Good Friday** Worship will be held at Evangelical of Poestenkil, April 7, at 7:00 p.m. Evangelical and Faith combined choir will offer an anthem. This worship experience will be offered as a service of Tenebrae, a service of "shadows". This service will conclude with the sound of the "strepitus", a loud echo depicting the closing of the tomb. All leave in darkness and silence.

**Easter Morning Special Coffee Hour** will be provided **prior to worship**. Come to the Fellowship Hall between 9:30 and 10:15 to share Easter Greetings and enjoy some goodies provided by the Council.

**Easter Morning Worship** will be held at the usual Sunday worship time, 10:30 a.m. As always, there will be much singing and joyous celebration as we observe the Festival of the Resurrection. Following worship the Sunday School will hold its annual Easter egg hunt.

### APRIL EVENTS

<b>Mon</b>	<b>April 2</b>	Council @ 7pm
<b>Thurs</b>	<b>April 5</b>	Holy Thursday service @ 7pm @ Faith
<b>Fri</b>	<b>April 6</b>	Good Friday service @ 7pm @ Poestenkil
<b>Easter Sunday</b>	<b>April 8</b>	Pre-service Coffee Hour 9:30 – 10:15
<b>Sat</b>	<b>April 14</b>	Dinner Club @ 6:30pm
<b>Tues</b>	<b>April 17</b>	WELCA @ 7pm
<b>Fri - Sun</b>	<b>April 27-29</b>	WELCA Retreat

### YOU ARE INVITED

The members of the Council invite you to come to a special coffee hour on Easter Sunday PRIOR to our worship service. Goodies will be served from 9:30 to 10:15. Bring your family and friends to share Easter greetings and some goodies. Any donations received for this special coffee hour will be applied to our project for the handicapped accessible bathroom.

## COUNCIL SUMMARY

Pastor Cordes gave a 'big' thank you to all for his much appreciated 30 years of ordination celebration.

Correspondence from Synod was received stating it is time for the annual audit of the church financial records. The Constitution was reviewed regarding guidelines on how the audit should be performed and whether an Audit committee should be formed. The Council decided to follow the same process as in past years. An Audit committee will not be formed at this time.

Research and analysis continues on financial options for the remaining annex mortgage balance. The current mortgage will mature in 2014 with a final balloon payment due at that time.

The 1<sup>st</sup> reading of a new Continuing Resolution for Church Historian was reviewed, discussed, and approved by the Council. Carolyn Rouse has been appointed liaison of the History Committee.

For any concerns or problems, please advise us. We will discuss and address issues at our next meeting on Monday April 2, 2012 at 7pm.

*Diana Rieker, Secretary*

## ADULT BIBLE STUDY

The Adult Bible class meets each Sunday morning at 9:15 in the Fellowship Hall. The group has just begun the study of Exodus. Come and join in the study of the Scriptures. There will not be a class on Easter morning.

## SERVING FAITH

<b>April 1 Palm Sunday</b>	<b>Altar</b>	Pat Turcotte, Donna St. John, Joyce Duncan
	<b>Lay Assistant Ushers</b>	Pat Turcotte Diana Rieker, Jim Peters
	<b>Counters</b>	Carolyn Rouse, Irene Pagel
	<b>Coffee Hour</b>	Sara & John Martin
	<b>April 5 Maundy Thursday</b>	<b>Altar</b>
	<b>Lay Assistant Ushers</b>	Rich Anderson Joe & Beth Kin
<b>April 8 EASTER</b>	<b>Altar</b>	Nadeen Thompson, Karen Cordes, Pam Perras
	<b>Lay Assistant Ushers</b>	Carol Karpfen Rob & Roberta Hayward
	<b>Counters</b>	Fred & Michele Howard
	<b>Coffee Hour</b>	Church Council

<b>April 15</b>	<b>Altar</b>	Nadeen Thompson, Karen Cordes, Pam Perras
	<b>Lay Assistant Ushers Counters</b>	Bill Maloney Cay Moss, Rikki Franklin Joyce Duncan, Carol Perrott
	<b>Coffee Hour</b>	Janet Walsh, Marilyn Niles
	<b>April 22</b>	<b>Altar</b>
	<b>Lay Assistant Ushers</b>	Aaron Cordes B. Morgan, B. Speanburg, B. Stevens
	<b>Counters Coffee Hour</b>	Bill & Evelyn Jarosz Tracie Maloney
<b>April 29</b>	<b>Altar</b>	Mary Frazer, Pat Brundige, Janet Walsh
	<b>Lay Assistant Ushers</b>	Rebecca Truland Mike Moroskey, Donna Truland
	<b>Counters</b>	Mildred Lalanne, Janet Walsh
	<b>Coffee Hour</b>	Rikki Franklin

## FLOWERS FOR APRIL

**April 1:** In Memory of Departed Members  
Given by WELCA

**April 8:** Easter Flowers. To our Risen Lord

**April 15:** To the Glory of God

**April 22:** In memory of Helen Turcotte & Marianne Zydek  
Given by Ron and Pat Turcotte

**April 29** To the Glory of God



**WOMEN  
OF THE  
ELCA**

Women of the ELCA met at Donna Gibson's home in February. We began the final Bible Study lesson, "The People of God: Unity in the Midst of Diversity: Witnessing and Evangelism". The lesson will be completed at the March meeting. Plans were made for hostessing the Hudson-Mohawk Conference Spring Assembly on March 31 at Faith.

Faith will provide lunch and dinner for the guests at Joseph's House on Saturday, May 5. A list of

needed items for the meals will be posted after Easter. . Thank you in advance for your help in providing this food for some of the needy folks in our community.

The April meeting will be on Tuesday, April 17 at 7 pm. We will start the new Bible Study on the Gospel of Mark—*To Follow and Serve*.



Easter is coming and spring is in the air (I guess spring has been in the air since December), what a joyful time for the children and congregation. In March the Sunday School children kicked off our "Buck a Chick" fundraiser. The decorated chicks are already adorning the bulletin board in the hallway, check them out. If you are interested in decorating a chick and giving a dollar to help families living in poverty, please see me or one of the children in church before Easter.

Although there will be no Sunday School on Easter Sunday, there will be a short Easter Egg hunt for the children after church. All children are invited to attend.

Once again, if you have any questions or would like to volunteer to help out with the children's education, please contact me at 237-7124 or [s.martin@hvcc.edu](mailto:s.martin@hvcc.edu).

*Sara Martin*  
Education Committee Chair



## DINNER CLUB

The March meeting was held at church with Chicken Stroganoff being served by the committee: Karpies, Wagers, Pauline Lupo, Pastor Steve and the Lansings. Thank you everyone for the yummy meal. Following dinner Carol and Ron Karpies showed

pictures of their trip to Italy, including Venice, Florence and Rome. There were some really beautiful places to behold.

The April meeting will be on Saturday, April 14 at church. The hosts are: Ruth & Al Goerold, Polly & Bob Hayward, Donna & Gene St. John, and Donna VanZandt. Please make reservations with any of the committee by April 10. Special entertainment that is sure to please is planned



## OUR FAITH AT WORK

Our mission for the month of April will be in support of Lutheran World Relief.

Lutheran World Relief (LWR) is a ministry of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America (ELCA), the Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod (LCMS), individuals and parish groups in international relief, development, advocacy and social responsibility. They are an international nonprofit organization working to end poverty and injustice in some of the world's most impoverished communities. With partners in 35 countries, LWR seeks to promote sustainable development, improve health, strengthen communities, end conflict, build livelihoods and recover from disasters.

Any help you can give is greatly appreciated.

Thank you for your continued support

*David Truland*, Missions Chair

## MAY NEWSLETTER DEADLINE

The May newsletter deadline is Sunday, April 22. Please place your articles in the box in the Church office by Sunday, or email them to [DSGLVA@aol.com](mailto:DSGLVA@aol.com) by Monday morning.