

Following Faith

The Monthly Newsletter of
Faith Lutheran Church

May 2012



Your Ticket Please?

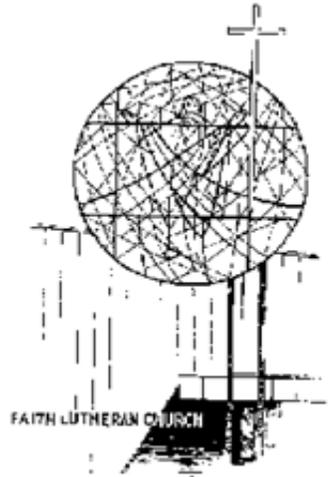
The story is told about Albert Einstein, the brilliant physicist of Princeton University in the early 20th century. Einstein was traveling from Princeton on a train, and when the conductor came down the aisle to punch the passengers' tickets, Einstein couldn't find his. He looked in his vest pocket, he looked in his pants pocket, he looked in his briefcase, but there was no ticket. The conductor was gracious; "Not to worry, Dr. Einstein, I know who you are, we all know who you are, and I'm sure you bought a ticket."

As the conductor moved down the aisle, he looked back and noticed Einstein on his hands and knees, searching under the seat for his ticket. The conductor returned to Einstein; "Dr. Einstein, Dr. Einstein, don't worry. I know who you are. You don't need a ticket, I'm sure you bought one." Einstein arose and said "Young man, I too know who I am; what I don't know is where I am going."

This little story could serve well as a parable at this time of graduation. We think we know who we are, but do we know where we are going? Where shall we live? For whom shall we work? Who will we share life with? For what shall I be known? Those questions seem to never end throughout all of life. Yet, as long as we know Whose we are, we'll know where we are going. The stops along the way will become obvious enough, since indeed we are defined by our final destination, the resurrection.

I'm reminded of a chapter from Stephen Covey's book, Seven Habits of Highly Effective People, "Begin with the End in Mind". The better we perceive where all is going, the better our attitude and motivation for life. Christians call that faith, and faith will make a world of difference in how we get to where we are going. Enjoy the ride! No ticket necessary. Jesus took care of it. He knows who you are and he promises to get you home.

Pastor Steve



Faith Lutheran Church
50 Leverage Road
Troy, New York 12182
(518) 237-4641
www.faithlutherantroy.com

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 (6th gr. – adult)
10:30 am (5th gr. & under)

Sunday morning worship is at 10:30 am

AMONG OUR PEOPLE

Sick and Recuperating: **Julia Cannon** continues under Hospice Care at the Eddy Nursing Home. **Cay Moss** has spent some time in and out of Samaritan Hospital as she continues to adjust the process of her dialysis care. **Lois Ambuhl** continues her regiment of chemotherapy. Following surgery, **Dottie Polk** has received a very encouraging prognosis. She is healing and feeling much better. **Don** and **Gladys Zepf** are home while receiving rehabilitation and home services. Don is doing much better after suffering a fall. **Beverly Lanteigne** is much improved following hospitalization for severe back pain.

Death: **Pastor Richard Scheu** died in St. Peter's Hospital following a long illness. He had recently retired after serving 35 years at Prince of Peace Lutheran Church in Lansingburgh. A memorial service was held April 28. Pastor Scheu was well known for his work with the youth, especially serving every year at Confirmation Camp. He was also very active in community work in Lansingburgh. Please remember in your prayers his family, especially his wife, Carol, and daughter, Kristen.

COUNCIL SUMMARY

Registration for the 2012 Synod Assembly on June 8th - 9th has begun. The Council is requesting Donna Van Zandt and Dave Truland serve as delegates for Faith this year.

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. HSBC Bank was consulted regarding questions on how to pay more now in order to reduce the final balloon payment. The bank also indicated that a letter on options for refinancing the balloon payment will be sent 2-3 months before the final payment becomes due.

The process for developing a new church website with services provided by Connected Word is underway. 70 website templates were reviewed and have been narrowed down to a few choices. The final template will be determined shortly.

The 2nd reading of a new Continuing Resolution for Church Historian was reviewed, discussed, and approved by the Council.

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

Diana Rieker, Secretary

SERVING FAITH

May 6	Altar	Kay Young, Donna Gibson, Lou Ann Behrens
	Lay Assistant Ushers	Donna Gibson Pauline Lupo, Nadeen Thompson
	Counters Coffee Hour	Bob & Polly Hayward Donna & Bob Gibson
	May 13	Altar
	Lay Assistant Ushers	Fred Howard Ron Moss, Bill Speanburg
	Counters	Joyce Duncan, Carol Perrott
	Coffee Hour	Eugene & Donna St. John, Jimmy Peters
May 20	Altar	Merilyn Niles, Helen Inglis, Polly Hayward
	Lay Assistant Ushers	Bob Gibson Irene Pagel, Carol Perrott
	Counters Coffee Hour	Bob & Donna Gibson Heather & Errol Bull
	May 27	Altar
Lay Assistant Ushers		Pam Turcotte Diana Rieker, Jim Peters
Counters		Fred & Michelle Howard
Coffee Hour		Nadeen Thompson

FLOWERS FOR May

May 6: In Memory of Bob Young

Given by Kay Young

May 13: In memory of Gertrude Clickner

Given by Larry Lansing

May 20: In honor of our Children

Given by the St. John's

May 27 Pentecost

As we have done in the past, flowering plants will be bought and placed on the Altar for Pentecost. Shortly after they will be planted outside to enhance the beauty of our Church grounds. If you would like to contribute to this program, please see Donna Van Zandt with your donation.

Thank you.



WOMEN OF THE ELCA

The women's group began the Bible study on Mark, "To Follow and To Serve", at the April meeting. We will continue this study on May 15 at 7 PM at church. The menu was confirmed and a sign-up sheet posted for meals at Joseph's House on Saturday, May 5. We will be providing both lunch and dinner that day for approximately 30 people. Items are needed, so if you can supply one of them, please sign on the sheet posted in the Narthex. Those items should be at Church by 10 AM on May 5.

Saturday May 19 we will have a work day at church, beginning at 10 AM, to make back packs for the ingathering for the annual convention. Come join us and help make a number of back packs that will be distributed locally. Anyone who has sturdy fabric that you don't need, donations are needed. We have received enough to make 5 or 6 bags already. Also needed is cotton (preferred) or other fabric 1/4 " cord. Again, donations would be appreciated. Thank you for your help with this project.

In June we will gather at Marilyn's for swimming at 3 pm (weather permitting) followed by a covered dish picnic. Plans for next year's schedule will be discussed.



Just as quickly as it got here, Easter is now behind us again until next year. Although I like to think we have the Easter spirit all year long, the Easter season is always a special time for our children and the congregation. This year as an Easter project, the Sunday School took on a fundraising initiative called "Buck a Chick". For each dollar donated and picture colored a chick will be bought and given to a needy family. I am proud to announce that a total of \$317 was raised to help those in need. Thank you so very much to the congregation for all their coloring and fundraising efforts.

Since we are approaching the end of the school year, it is time to start planning the Sunday School picnic. This year the picnic is planned for Sunday, June 10th. The picnic will begin immediately following church and the entire congregation is invited and encouraged to attend. There will be picnic food, fun and fellowship.

Finally, I would like to start developing ideas for the education program/Sunday School next year. It is getting to the point that the age differences in the students is going to necessitate 2 separate classes. Our main problem with this plan is that we don't have enough teachers to staff both programs. Therefore, I am looking for ideas on what we can do to make the programs age appropriate and good for everyone's schedule. If you have any ideas or thoughts, please let me know.

As always, if you have any questions or would like to volunteer to help out with the children's education or the Sunday School picnic, please contact me at 237-7124 or s.martin@hvcc.edu.

Sara Martin
Education Committee Chair

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.



DINNER CLUB

Dinner Club enjoyed a delicious Italian meal at "La Speranza" in April. Sadness abounded since the owner, Pepi, had been murdered earlier that day. The evening was spent trying to determine who the murder or murderess was. What fun! The "actors" : Polly & Bob Hayward, Donna VanZandt, Donna & Gene St. John, Ruth Goerold, Bob Gibson, Pastor Steve and Bob St. John filled their roles extremely well.

The May meeting will be on Saturday, May 12 at church with Louann Behrens, June Goyette, Pam Perras and Bob & Donna Gibson as hosts. They have BIG shoes to fill! Make reservations with any of the hosts.



OUR FAITH AT WORK

Our mission support contributions for the month of May will be in support of the Basics for Babies campaign of Unity House of Troy. Unity House helps the youngest and most vulnerable people in our society, children. The program helps provide families in need with items such as car seats, cribs, diapers, formula and baby food.

In addition to our financial support, donation of baby clothes, blankets, strollers and other items in new or gently used condition may be made directly to Unity House and are always appreciated.

David Truland, Missions Chair

STEWARDSHIP

I would like to thank everyone for your great pledge card response. I'm so glad the people of Faith realize how important the pledge card system is and it is encouraging when so many participate.

Last month, we practiced stewardship by participating in the "Buck A Chick" program that our little Luthers were sponsoring. Also, this time of year we can plant flowers and enjoy the beautiful outdoors that have been created by God. Help a neighbor clean up their yard or accomplish a special project, it will make you and them feel good.

There are many forms of stewardship and we are all here to do God's work, so share your blessings and show everyone that they have a friend in Jesus.

Stephanie Wagar, Stewardship Chair

MAY EVENTS

Sat	May 5	Meals for St. Joseph's House
Mon	May 7	Council @ 7pm
Sat	May 12	Dinner Club @ 6:30pm
Tues	May 15	WELCA @ 7pm
Sat	May 19	WELCA Work day @ 10am to make back packs
Sun	May 20	Newsletter deadline

FACILITIES RESERVATIONS

Want to reserve a date to use our facilities? The calendar on the desk in the Church office serves as the "Official Calendar" of reservations to use our facilities. Officially recognized organizations or committees of the church may simply add their reservations to that calendar. All other requests for reservations should be submitted to the Pastor or Church Council President. Applications (requests) forms for reservations by outside groups are available in the Church Office. Fees will be charged for non-affiliated use of our facilities. Copies of our official policies are available upon request.

NEWSLETTER DEADLINE

The June newsletter deadline is Sunday, May 20th.. Please place your articles in the box in the Church office by Sunday, or email them to DSGLVA@aol.com by Monday morning.