

Following Faith

The Monthly Newsletter of
Faith Lutheran Church

February 2013



STAYING IN TOUCH

I appreciate an illustration Billy Graham once used. As he had recently watched the docking of the great liner United States as it arrived in New York harbor, he noted how the deck hands first received a long cable extending from the ship to the dock. Immediately, this cable was attached to an elaborate "reeling in" system driven by powerful motors. Of course as the cable shortened, the ship was eventually drawn snugly to the pier and all was secured. Commenting, he made special note of how the pier was not drawn to the ship, rather the ship drawn to the pier. He then pointed out that prayer is like that cable, that it pulls God and us together. But it doesn't pull God down to us; it pulls us to God. Thus, we learn from the One who taught us to pray, "Not my will; but Thine be done."

Perhaps the greatest thing about prayer is that it first and foremost draws us into the presence of God. Once aware of such close proximity, aware of a power above all powers, we discover the one thing necessary, and according to St. Paul, the one thing that really matters, "We have already been understood." What more can we ask for? And by the way, what was it we were asking for in the first place?

Pastor Steve

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 Peyser** is scheduled for some corrective surgery to an original injury from a motorcycle accident back in September. **Mark Lastrup** is scheduled for brain surgery at Albany Medical Hospital on January 24.

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

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:

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 (InReach/OutReach)
Sara Martin (Education)
Carolyn Rouse (History)
David Truland (Missions)
Donna VanZandt (Worship)
Stephanie Wagar (Stewardship)

COUNCIL SUMMARY

The Council made final adjustments to the 2013 proposed expenditure budget. A motion to propose the 2013 expenditure budget to the congregation at the Annual Congregational meeting was made and carried by the Council. Items to be included as agenda topics and the format for the Annual Congregational meeting were discussed.

Five contractors are interested in the handicap accessible bathroom project. Drawings for the projects have been re-configured and will be presented to the City of Troy in order to obtain a building permit.

Faith has been approached about sponsoring a chapter of Scouts. Sponsorship entails providing a place for Scout meetings. No other costs to the church are required. The Council decided to give permission for a chapter of Scouts to use the church facilities on a trial basis.

For any concerns or problems, please advise us. We will discuss and address issues at our next meeting on Monday February 4, 2013 at 7pm.

Diana Rieker, Secretary

FLOWERS FOR FEBRUARY

February 3 In Honor of Rebecca's Birthday
Given by the Trulands

February 10: To the Glory of God

February 17: To the Glory of God

February 24: To the Glory of God

SCOUT SUNDAY

On Sunday February 3rd, the Scouts will be celebrating their 103rd Anniversary. If you see anyone wearing a scout uniform, please congratulate them.

SERVING FAITH

Feb. 3	Altar	LouAnn Behrens, Donna St. John, Sally Davis
	Lay Assistant	Rebecca Truland
	Ushers	Roberta & Rob Hayward
	Counters	Michele & Fred Howard
	Coffee Hour	Bob & Donna Gibson

Feb. 10	Altar	Donna Gibson, Polly Hayward, Evelyn Jarosz
	Lay Assistant	Pat Turcotte
	Ushers	Beth & Joe King
	Counters	Donna & Bob Gibson
	Coffee Hour	Rikki Franklin
Feb 13	Altar	Donna Gibson, Polly Hayward, Evelyn Jarosz
Ash Wed	Lay Assistant	(not needed)
	Ushers	Pauline Lupo, Nadeen Thompson
	Counters	(not needed)
	Coffee Hour	None
Feb. 17	Altar	Karen Cordes, Joyce Duncan, Kay Young
	Lay Assistant	Rich Anderson
	Ushers	Irene Pagel, Carol Perott
	Counters	Irene Pagel, Carolyn Rouse
	Coffee Hour	Sara & John Martin
Feb. 24	Altar	Karen Cordes, Joyce Duncan, Kay Young
	Lay Assistant	Aaron Cordes
	Ushers	Ron Moss, Bill Speanburg
	Counters	Evelyn & Bill Jarosz
	Coffee Hour	Gene & Donna St. John



Since things have calmed down from the holiday season, there is not much news to report. Sunday School started again on January 6th after some time off for Christmas and New Year's. Our current roster stands at 18 regularly attending students. I am currently updating all the contact information for the Sunday School families in order to foster communication and cooperation. Plans for 2013 include keeping our bulletin board updated with new and timely decorations and planning some special Easter activities. In addition, I am going to once again be looking into having a student or two perform acolyte duties during the service.

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). Thank you for your continued support!

Happy New Year!

Sara Martin, Education Director



WOMEN OF THE ELCA

Women of the ELCA began meeting at 10 AM on the third Tuesday in January. Nine women attended. The February and March meetings will be held at this same time and will be evaluated in March and decision made on the time for the regular meetings. We completed Session 4 of the Mark Bible study. For the February meeting (Feb 19 at 10 am at church), bring your January 2012 issue of *Gather* magazine if you have it.

The women will order subscriptions of *The Little Lutheran* for all the Sunday School families with children age 7 and under. A monetary contribution was sent to Upstate New York Women of the ELCA.

A lovely thank you note was received from the Kenwood Center (formerly known as the Good Samaritan Home). Thank you all for your generous contributions of Christmas gifts for the residents.

The annual Valentine's cookie packing will be held after church on Sunday, February 10. As usual, contributions of cookies would be appreciated. They will be delivered to the shut-ins in time for Valentine's Day.

Lutheran World Relief is challenging Lutherans across the US to donate 500,000 quilts to send around the world to people in need. The group decided to have a quilt making day on Saturday, April 20, 10 am – 2 pm, at church. Many hands are needed that day. There will be stations to cut the fabric, sew the strips together, layer the top, batting, and back and tie the quilts together. Donations of cotton fabric and batting will be very helpful for this special project. Mark your calendar and come help us get several quilts together. Stay for as long as you are able. The quilting project for St. Paul's Center still continues. During 2012, we gave 26 twin quilts plus one baby quilt to St. Paul's Women's Shelter.

The annual convention will be at Camp-of-the-Woods September 13-15 with "Let Justice Flow" as the theme. This year's ingathering will be health kits. We will be collecting items for these kits over the next several months.



DINNER CLUB

DINNER CLUB VALENTINES BANQUET Saturday FEBRUARY 9th at 6:15pm

Come and enjoy an evening out with your Faith Lutheran Church friends. The Dinner Club is hosting its annual night out! This event is open to anyone in the congregation that would like to attend. And don't let the name fool you – you don't have to be a member of the club (singles are welcome)

Details for the event are:

LOCATION: Brown' s Brewing Co. Revolution Hall
425 River Street, Troy

COST: \$30.00 per person.

Price includes: appetizers, dinner choice, tossed salad, rolls, & dessert.

Cash bar

DINNER CHOICES:

- Sliced NY strip in a Whiskey Porter demi
- Roast half chicken, lightly seasoned, w/ brown butter
- Tuscan Salmon, sautéed over spinach, topped w/ tomato & mozzarella

All served with asparagus and mashed potatoes

Please make reservations ASAP

by calling Donna & Eugene St. John at 274-3539



OUR FAITH AT WORK

Our Mission contributions for the month of February will once again be in support of the Wycliffe Bible Translators.

David Truland, Missions Chair

POP TOP TABS FROM CANS

Have you ever noticed people bring the pop top tabs from soda cans (and other kinds of cans with those pop top tabs) and then giving the tabs to Bob Hayward? Wonder what that's all about?

The Ronald McDonald House Charities® Inc. has a Pop Tab collection program to raise funds for Ronald McDonald Houses that provide support and care for families of critically ill children receiving medical attention in health care facilities.

Why just the tabs. According to the RMHC website, Ronald McDonald Houses collect pop tabs instead of entire aluminum cans because it's more hygienic to store tabs than cans, and collection and storage is easier. The program is an easy way for people of all ages to support RMHC and know they are making a difference for families and children.

Pop Tabs donated to RMHC through this initiative will be recycled and redeemed for cash. One Pop Tab by itself doesn't amount to much, but thousands of Pop Tabs will make a huge impact for Ronald McDonald House Charities®.

Thanks to Bob Hayward for being our connection to this mission.

MEMBER ONLY WEB PAGES

More documents have been added to the members only portion of the Faith website. A new tab on the member page has been added for the Property Committee. Documents under the "Property" tab include images of our building plans from our aging paper ones, scope of project information for the Handicapped Accessible Bathroom, and updates and pictures of the siding project to repair the outside wall to the balcony. For those of you who missed the Annual Congregational Meeting, you can still see the annual reports by going to the "Resources" tab and selecting annual meeting materials. That same tab also include an updated Directory and the text under the link lists address changes since the directory was printed in September.

Remember that to access the Members Only pages, you must first sign up as a member. To learn how, click the [Click here](#) link at the right hand side of the home screen under the title "Are you a member of Faith?"

EVENTS for FEBRUARY

Sun. Feb. 3	9:15 am 10:30 am	Adult Bible Study Worship & Sunday School Coffee Hours after worship
Mon. Feb. 4	7 pm	Council Reorganization Meeting
Thurs. Feb 7	7 pm	Choir Rehearsal
Sat. Feb. 9	6:15 pm	Dinner Club Banquet @ Revolution Hall
Sun. Feb. 10	9:15 am 10:30 am	Adult Bible Study Worship & Sunday School Coffee Hours after worship
Wed. Feb 13	4 pm	Ash Wednesday Service
Thurs. Feb. 14	7 pm	Choir Rehearsal
Sun. Feb. 17	9:15 am 10:30 am	Adult Bible Study Worship & Sunday School Coffee Hours after worship
Tues. Feb. 19	10 am	WELCA Meeting
Thurs. Feb. 21	7 pm	Choir Rehearsal
Sun. Feb. 24	9:15 am 10:30 am	Adult Bible Study Worship & Sunday School Coffee Hours after worship
Thurs. Feb. 28	7 pm	Choir Rehearsal

EARLY NEWSLETTER DEADLINE

The March newsletter deadline is **Monday, February 11th**. This early deadline is necessary in order to produce the newsletter prior to the vacation of the newsletter editors. Please place your articles in the box in the Church office by February 10th or email them to DSGLVA@aol.com by February 11th.