

Following Faith

The Monthly Newsletter of
Faith Lutheran Church

JULY- AUGUST 2014



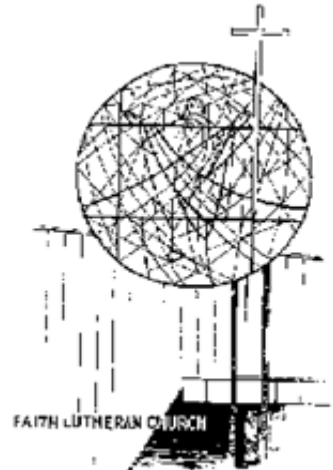
Finding Our Way Home

Picture a little girl lost in a big city. There she sits, crying on the curb. A policeman finds her, puts her in his cruiser and drives her up and down the streets, hoping she'll recognize something familiar. Which, at last, she does. She sees a steeple with a cross on it. Tears vanish. Speech returns. "That's my church," she says. "I can find my way from here."

You're not the only one, little girl. Indeed, we can find our way from here. Driving down the road one day alone with my father, he said something clearly out of the blue, totally unexpected. I've never forgotten his sudden clear discernment, "No matter what you do in life always stay with the church. Because if you do, you'll always have a family no matter what. And when you have family, someone will always be there and you'll never be alone."

What prompted my dad to say those particular words at that precise time I'll never know. However, those words could not have proven to be truer. Certainly there are all kinds of good reasons to be part of the church, none better than it is the very body of Christ. Yet one of the best things I've come to understand is what that means. We'll never be alone. And best of all, we'll always have a family to remind us, "I can find my way from here."

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.

Adult Bible Study: 9:15 a. m.

Sunday School: during worship

The Rev. Stephen L. Cordes, Pastor

Church Council Officers:

David Truland (President)

Sara Martin (Vice President)

Barbara Boord (Treasurer)

Joyce Duncan (Secretary)

Fred Howard (Financial Secretary)

Council Members

Errol Bull (Property)

Joyce Duncan (In Reach/Out Reach)

Bill Jarosz (Property)

Bev Lanteigne (Property)

Sara Martin (Education)

Michael Moroskey (Property)

Carol Perott (Missions)

Carolyn Rouse (History)

Donna VanZandt (Worship)

Stephanie Wagar (In Reach/Out Reach)

AMONG OUR PEOPLE

Sick and Recuperating: **Doug Kurick** has returned home following physical rehabilitation at Rosewood Gardens and a brief visit to Albany Memorial Hospital. Currently he is receiving nursing care from visiting health aids. **Arlene Hunziker** was in St. Mary's Hospital for a few days while waiting to pass a kidney stone. She is a little worn out from the experience, yet home and regaining strength.

Pat Turcotte has returned home after spending a couple of days in Albany Medical Center. There she received a stint for her aortic artery to alleviate problems with an aneurysm. **Mildred Lalane** continues to receive treatment from the wound center, making slow but improved progress toward healing. **Vicky Steele** is currently in Albany Medical Center receiving treatment for congestive heart failure. **Bob Gibson** has just finished a round of radiation treatment in hope of relieving some pain in his back. **Joe Zepf** has been diagnosed with lung cancer as he continues to live comfortably at the Albany County Nursing Home. **Dorothy Benziger** continues her recovery from cardiac and respiratory problems down in Florida, delaying for the time being their usual return to this area. Currently, Dorothy is spending time in a rehabilitation facility attempting to renew her strength and energy. As a result of a fall, **Nadeen Thompson** broke her ankle and will require the use of a walking boot for a few weeks. **Rich Anderson** is once again singing loudly, clearly, and beautifully!

New Born: **Natalie Jean Grooten**, daughter of David and Laura (Hurteau) Grooten, granddaughter of Jeff and Donna Hurteau, and great granddaughter of Ralph and Janet Erickson, was born on May 1. Congratulations!

Married: **Carissa Maloney and Tyler Hume** joined together in marriage on June 13th in a wedding ceremony at the Crooked Lake House in Sand Lake. Carissa is the daughter of Bill and Tracie Maloney and Tyler is the son of Greg and Deborah Hume. Congratulations!

Death: **Dorothy Lewis** passed away peacefully on the morning of June 24th with her family by her side. She had just entered Hospice Care at Eddy Nursing Facility where she had resided the last three years.

Graduates: **Dakota Franklin** graduated from Lansingburgh High School and plans to attend Hudson Valley Community College in the fall where he will study physical education and play soccer and lacrosse. **Halle King** graduated from Tamarac High School and will attend SUNY at New Paltz and plans to play soccer. **Rachel Truland** graduated from Lansingburgh High School, Salutatorian, and will attend Hartwick College in the fall. She has a place

on the soccer team and plans to study Pre-Allied Health. **Jenna Erickson** graduated from Tamarac High School and plans to attend Thomas Aquinas University in the fall and play basketball. **Lindsay King** graduated with honors from SUNY, Oswego with a double major in Communications and International Studies. She plans to pursue a career in government and may possibly attend Law School this fall.

DISTRIBUTION OF NEWSLETTER IS CHANGING

BE SURE TO READ ARTICLE LATER IN THIS NEWSLETTER

FLOWERS FOR JULY and AUGUST

| | |
|---------|--|
| July 6 | To the Glory of God |
| July 13 | To the Glory of God |
| July 20 | In memory of my Grandmother, Margaret Speanberg, Given by Barbara Morgan |
| July 27 | In memory of Leo and Dorothy Perras. Given by Leo and Pam Perras. |
| Aug 3 | To the Glory of God |
| Aug 10 | To the Glory of God |
| Aug 17 | In memory of my Parents Given by Nadeen Thompson |
| Aug 24 | To the Glory of God |
| Aug 31 | To the Glory of God |

COUNCIL SUMMARY

The Property Committee will be finalizing its' research into the cost of a new furnace and water heater. A presentation to the Congregation is planned for September at which time the cost of the project will be detailed and the Council will seek approval for the project.

Council members discussed the possibility of obtaining a defibrillator for the Church. A motion was made and accepted to have Donna VanZandt

explore the cost of purchasing a defibrillator and report at the next Council meeting.

For any concerns or problems please advise us. We will discuss and address the issues at our next meeting. Our next meeting will be Monday August 18, 2014

Joyce Duncan, Secretary

SERVING FAITH JULY

| | | |
|----------------|----------------------|-------------------------------|
| July 6 | Altar | Karen Cordes, Donna St. John |
| | Lay Assistant | Bill Jarosz |
| | Ushers | Errol Bull, Bill Speanberg |
| | Counters | Polly and Bob Hayward |
| | Coffee Hour | Gene and Donna St. John |
| July 13 | Altar | Polly Hayward, Janet Walsh |
| | Lay Assistant | Fred Howard |
| | Ushers | Donna Truland and Family |
| | Counters | Michele and Fred Howard |
| | Coffee Hour | Janet Walsh and Marilyn Niles |
| July 20 | Altar | Polly Hayward, Janet Walsh |
| | Lay Assistant | Bob Gibson |
| | Ushers | Barbara Boord, Irene Pagel |
| | Counters | Donna and Bob Gibson |
| | Coffee Hour | Nadeen Thompson |
| July 27 | Altar | Merilyn Niles, Pam Perras |
| | Lay Assistant | Carol Karpfen |
| | Ushers | Rikki Franklin and Ron Moss |
| | Counters | Evelyn and Bill Jarosz |
| | Coffee Hour | Irene Pagel and Carolyn Rouse |

AUGUST

| | | |
|--------------|----------------------|-------------------------------|
| Aug 3 | Altar | Merilyn Niles, Pam Perras |
| | Lay Assistant | Bill Maloney |
| | Ushers | Roberta and Rob Hayward |
| | Counters | Irene Pagel and Carolyn Rouse |
| | Coffee Hour | The Speanberg Family |

| | | |
|---------------|----------------------|-------------------------------------|
| Aug 10 | Altar | Donna Gibson, Evelyn Jarosz |
| | Lay Assistant | Rich Anderson |
| | Ushers | Beth and Joe King |
| | Counters | LouAnn Behrens and Janet Walsh |
| | Coffee Hour | Tracie Maloney |
| Aug 17 | Altar | Donna Gibson, Evelyn Jarosz |
| | Lay Assistant | Aaron Cordes |
| | Ushers | Pauline Lupo and Nadeen Thompson |
| | Counters | Joyce Duncan and Carol Perrott |
| | Coffee Hour | Heather and Errol Bull |
| Aug 24 | Altar | Janet Walsh, Joyce Duncan |
| | Lay Assistant | Donna Gibson |
| | Ushers | B. Morgan, B. Stevens, B. Speanberg |
| | Counters | Polly and Bob Hayward |
| | Coffee Hour | Rikki Franklin |
| Aug 31 | Altar | Janet Walsh, Joyce Duncan |
| | Lay Assistant | Fred Howard |
| | Ushers | Carol Perrott and Stephanie Wagar |
| | Counters | Michele and Fred Howard |
| | Coffee Hour | Volunteer needed |

If you are unable to serve on your assigned Sunday, please arrange to trade dates with another assistant.

Thank you in advance for your assistance.

Donna Van Zandt, Worship Chairperson.

Schedule for Altar Guild by Pam Perras

Schedule for Coffee Hour by Heather Bull

OUR FAITH AT WORK

Our mission offering for the month of July will be in support of the work of the Young Women's Christian Association (YWCA) of the Greater Capital District.

The YWCA is the oldest and largest multicultural women's organization in the world. They have a long, rich history as a provider of services for women and their families. Local associations work to eliminate racism, to empower women, and to meet community needs through programs, services, and advocacy.

Your support is greatly appreciated.

For the month of August our mission offerings will be in support of the Ebenezer Child Care Trust - Christian Orphanage in Zambia.

The Ebenezer Child Care Trust was founded in March 2001 and was initially a feeding program for street kids in the town of Livingston, Zambia. Today it has expanded into a school for orphans and also rents out three homes where orphans are given the sense of a family they have lost. A house mother lives with the children and takes care of them.

Thank you for your continued support.

Carol Perrott



The end of the year is here and it certainly went out with a bang! We celebrated another year of Sunday School along with the First Communion of our oldest students. Those receiving their First Communion were Ryland Bull, Dimitri Cerrone, Noah Buckley, Alex Gregor, Max Rysedorph, Ben Rysedorph and Alex Rysedorph. Congratulations to them as they move on to the next steps of their religious education.

This year was a “two tent” Sunday School picnic. Along with the congregation, there were also many, many friends and family members of those receiving First Communion in attendance. As usual, the food and beverages were great and the fun seemed to go on forever! Thank you to all that made the picnic such a success by bringing in food, helping to set up or take down, or just being there to enjoy the day.

I hope everyone enjoys their summer “break” and gets recharged and reenergized for the fall. Dates and other information about the 2014-2015 Sunday School year will be forthcoming at the end of the summer. Thanks again!

Sara Martin
Education Director



**WOMEN
OF THE
ELCA**

WELCA annual picnic was held at Evelyn Jarosz's home on Tuesday, June 19. We attached Bible quote cards to the Prayer Squares which have been made. Anytime you are going to visit a shut-in or someone who is ill, pick up a prayer square and take it to the person you are visiting. They can be a comfort-giving device or a doily for a small devotional area on a table or dresser. A yummy supper was enjoyed along with plenty of fellowship.

Don't forget the **back pack making day on Saturday, June 28 at 10 AM**. We will meet at church and set up an assembly line to make the back packs. We have been given fabric and need some seamstresses to help make them. We will collect items to be included in them over the summer and assemble the packs on August 26.

Back Pack Items: spiral notebooks or composition books, ball point pens, eraser, ruler, crayons, scissors. We really appreciate all your generous contributions to help children who need these supplies for school. Thanks again.

Mark your calendar for our next regular meeting on Tuesday, September 16 at 10 AM at church. We will begin the “Of Many Generations: Mary, Elizabeth and Lydia” Bible study that day. Come join us and learn more about some of the women in the Bible.

Upstate New York WELCA annual convention will be held October 3 – 5, 2014 at the Best Western Hotel at Carrier Circle, Syracuse. The theme is “Called to Mission” and will feature Rev. Judith VanOsdol as Keynote Speaker on Friday evening and Bible Study led by Rev. Gail Wolling on Saturday morning. On Saturday there will be two mission opportunities off-site, craft activities at the hotel, and sites to visit in the Syracuse area. You make your choice. Following the banquet there will be a question and answer presentation by Linda Post Bushkofsky, Executive Director of Women of the ELCA. Convention and hotel reservations are due by September 6. Donna Gibson has registration forms.

A BIG THANK YOU!

On behalf of Faith Church and friends, I extend a well deserved thank you to Donna and Bob Gibson for editing and producing our church's monthly newsletter. Month after month, year after year, the Gibsons have seen to it that the Newsletter has gone out. From reminding us to get our information in promptly, to editing and printing all news articles, to headlining timely sources, and using graphics in a way to make for appeal, countless hours have been volunteered. Of course making the newsletter readable and presentable has been only half the job. Getting it delivered, as well, has been time consuming and often tedious. Monthly, Bob or Donna had to travel to Colonie to first get it printed. Followed by sorting, folding, binding the pages, and arranging the pieces by zip code. And once again the finished product had to go back to Colonie to be mailed. Rules for "mailing" constantly changed and one never knew how long the process would take. Needless to say, the task could be long and unpredictable as I hope everyone can appreciate the time and effort that has been volunteered. So now the time has come for Donna and her faithful assistant, Bob, to give it a break! Their reliability and cheerfulness have been a wonderful source of witness and encouragement. They have served us well! Words cannot express our THANKS!

Pastor Steve

BARBARA BOORD ACTING NEWSLETTER EDITOR/COORDINATOR

For the time being, Barbara Boord has agreed to help coordinate efforts to get our newsletter through this present transitional stage. As most of you are aware by now, we will no longer be using the "bulk mailing system". Hard copies of the newsletters will be available for the taking at church. You will always be able to pick up a current copy whenever you are present. You may go to the web site at www.faithlutheranchurchtroy.com at any time and see the newsletter there. We will be happy to email you a copy if you send your email address directly to Barbara at the email address shown below. Of course, we will also be happy to send you a copy via the USPS for the asking. If you would be willing to volunteer your efforts toward helping Barbara, or if you have information to get into the newsletter, her email address is: barbboord@hotmail.com.

NEWSLETTER DEADLINE

The September newsletter deadline is Sunday August, 17th. Please place your articles in the box in the Church office by Sunday, or email them to barbboord@hotmail.com by Monday morning.

THANKS TO ALL WHO CONTRIBUTED!

Thanks to all who contributed toward the cost of the Pentecost flowers. These spring flowers have now been transplanted to the outside flower beds surrounding our church building. Special thanks to Donna VanZandt for arranging for the purchase and planting of the flowers.

2014 SYNOD ASSEMBLY REPORT

It was indeed an honor to serve as a voting delegate from Faith Lutheran at the Synod Assembly and to be part of the process in selecting our Synod Bishop. The following report is drawn from the Post Assembly Report provided by UNYS.

Robert Gibson

The Rev. John S. Macholz was called to serve as the fourth Bishop of the Upstate New York Synod. Bishop-elect Macholz will take office on September 1. He received 236 votes and the Rev. Marie C. Jerge received 154 on the fifth ballot. Bishop-elect Macholz serves as Pastor of Atonement Lutheran Church in Rochester and has completed eight years as the Dean of the Genesee Finger Lakes Conference. Bishop Jerge was first called to the Office of Bishop in 2002 and has served in that office for twelve years. The selection process involved long, hard, prayerful work, undertaken with a commitment to follow the voice of the Holy Spirit. Six nominees were lifted up by the conferences to begin the process and answered honestly and faithfully various questions from the elections committee and the assembly. This was not a contest among opponents but discernment among colleagues. Bishop-elect Macholz addressed the assembly after the results were announced, saying, "This election is for the whole church and how we go forward in God's Holy Spirit, proclaiming the gospel. I ask for your prayers as we begin a new phase in the life of our church." He led the assembly in a standing ovation for Bishop Jerge and thanked her for all that she has brought to the office and the church. ELCA Secretary Wm. Chris Boerger, the Churchwide Representative at this assembly, chaired the bishop's election. He thanked the Assembly for its careful attention to the process and for raising up many outstanding leaders. "The whole church has been watching Rochester, because of the quality of leaders here," he told the assembly. "I'm mightily impressed with the Upstate New York Synod. Keep up the good work!"

Rev. Macholz will be installed as Bishop in Rochester on Saturday, September 6, 2014

With the baptismal font as the centerpiece, prayer, hymns, and Bible study enveloped each and every part of the proceedings. Pastors Joanne Stewart and Allie Leitzel led the assembly in Bible studies. ELCA Secretary Chris Boerger preached at the Eucharist. The assembly heard a positive financial report from Treasurer Fred Risser and Mr. Greg May of the Finance Committee and adopted:

- the 2015 Mission Proposal totaling approximately \$1.3 million
- a resolution in support of the ELCA Malaria Campaign
- several by-law changes and resolutions regarding the Synod Assembly
- a resolution asking the state legislature to pass legislation preventing employee discrimination based on actual or perceived sexual orientation
- a resolution asking Synod Council to establish a way to share resources for those wishing to support people and couples of all sexual orientations and gender identities, and their families

The assembly unanimously reelected Vice President Thomas Madden and Treasurer Fred Risser.

The Mission Faire, Workshops, SERRV, and the Good Bookstore offered the assembly many opportunities for learning, service, and growing in discipleship. Two car-loads of can tabs were collected to support Cherish All Children and the Lutheran Disaster Response efforts in West Seneca near Buffalo. Almost \$30,000 will be sent to the ELCA World Hunger Appeal. We celebrated the conclusion of the Feed the Roots of Leadership capital campaign and the distribution of over \$750,000 to camps, campus ministries and seminary scholarships, one of which is going to our own seminarian **Rebecca Truland**.



DINNER CLUB

July Dinner Club

The July dinner club meeting will be a Pool Party which will be held at Marilyn Niles' home on July 12. The committee includes Marilyn, Bob and Donna Gibson, Janet Walsh and Eugene and Donna St. John. Members and non-members alike are welcome to participate in this family friendly event. To make reservations, please contact one of the dinner committee members.

Mark your Calendar

The annual Hog Roast will be held on September 13 at the Howard Farm. This is always a fun day of fellowship and feasting beginning at 3:00 PM and lasting as long as people want to hang out around the evening bonfire. Young and old alike are welcome, so plan on spending this afternoon and evening with your friends from Faith!

