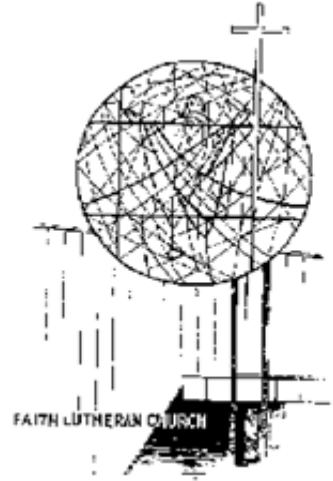


# Following Faith

The Monthly Newsletter of  
Faith Lutheran Church

January 2014



*Happy New Day*

In the comic strip, "Calvin and Hobbes" a conversation focuses on the New Year. Calvin says, "I'm disillusioned with these New Years. They don't seem very new at all. Each New Year is just like the old year. Here another year has gone by and everything's still the same. There's still pollution and war and stupidity and greed. Things haven't changed. I say what kind of future is this? I thought things were supposed to improve. I thought the future was supposed to be better."

Hobbes replies with his usual keen insight, "The problem with the future is that it keeps turning into the present."

Off the pages of the comics, Truth again! As much as we would hope for our dreams and goals to come to fruition, so much gets lost in the transition. For now some things cannot change. For now, the future reveals itself as the not so nearly perfect present. However, as St. Paul reminds us in 1 Corinthians 15, "when the perfect comes, the imperfect will pass away, and everything else shall change." Only then we will all be able to say, "The best thing about the future is that it has become the present." Than we will have the best laugh of all!

So until The New Day, have a Hopeful New Year, and may all your days be filled with the joy for what is still yet to come!

*Pastor Steve*

**Faith Lutheran Church**  
**50 Leverage Road**  
**Troy, New York 12182**  
**(518) 237-4641**  
[www.faithlutherantroy.com](http://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)**  
**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:** **Nadeen Thompson** is strengthening up following a bout with double pneumonia and spending a week at Samaritan Hospital. **Mark Lastrup** continues his physical therapy sessions at Sunny View Rehabilitation in Schenectady. **Mildred Lalanne** has gained very little improvement so far from the pain that stems from her neck. Doug **Kurick** has sustained back problems which impair his mobility. **Steve Lansing** is back to work and enjoying almost all physical activity after his recent surgery for Parkinson's Disease.

## FLOWERS FOR JANUARY

- January 5 :** In memory of Harry Inglis, Jr.  
Given by Helen Inglis
- January 12** In memory of Marilyn Howard  
Given by Fred and Michele Howard  
In memory of Sandy Whaley  
Given by her Mother
- January 19** To the Glory of God
- January 26** To the Glory of God

## NEW FLOWER CHART

The new calendar chart for altar flowers is now posted on the bulletin board in the narthex. If you would like to place flowers on the Altar please put the information on the flower chart for the date you wish. The cost is only \$19 per bouquet. Money (or checks made out to WELCA) should be given to Donna Van Zandt.

## VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

You can increase your stewardship to our church by volunteering as a Lay Assistant, Usher, or Counter. We could really use a few more people to help in one or more of these roles. 'Training' is available. See Donna Van Zandt for more information or to volunteer. Please consider serving our congregation in one of these roles.

## COUNCIL SUMMARY

The Council continued preparations of the upcoming 2014 budget. Specific budget line items were discussed including the annex mortgage balloon payment due in 2014, the church's annual Synod donation and salary increases for Pastor and the music personnel position. Annual Committee reports are due on January 6<sup>th</sup>. A motion was made and approved to recommend the proposed budget to the congregation at the Annual Congregation meeting scheduled for January 19<sup>th</sup> 2014.

Various property committee items were discussed. Siding was installed on the southern side of the church. The small hot water tank in the front of the church was replaced. Maintenance was performed on the snow blower. The need to replace the shed roof, which has curling shingles, was discussed.

For any concerns or problems, please advise us. We will discuss and address issues at our next meeting on Monday January 6<sup>th</sup>, 2014 at 7pm.

*Diana Rieker, Secretary*

## SERVING FAITH

<b>Jan 5</b>	<b>Altar</b>	LouAnn Behrens, Pam Perras
	<b>Lay Assistant</b>	Bill Jarosz
	<b>Ushers</b>	Diana Rieker, Jim Peters
	<b>Counters</b> <b>Coffee Hour</b>	Donna & Bob Gibson Heather & Errol Bull
<b>Jan. 12</b>	<b>Altar</b>	Donna Gibson, Roberta Hayward
	<b>Lay Assistant</b>	Rich Anderson
	<b>Ushers</b>	Rikki Franklin, Ron Moss
	<b>Counters</b> <b>Coffee Hour</b>	Irene Pagel, Carolyn Rouse Rikki Franklin
<b>Jan. 19</b>	<b>Altar</b>	Donna Gibson, Roberta Hayward
	<b>Lay Assistant</b>	Aaron Cordes
	<b>Ushers</b>	Roberta & Rob Hayward
	<b>Counters</b> <b>Coffee Hour</b>	Evelyn & Bill Jarosz Bob & Donna Gibson
<b>Jan. 26</b>	<b>Altar</b>	Pat Turcotte, Pat Brundige
	<b>Lay Assistant</b>	Donna Gibson
	<b>Ushers</b>	Beth & Joe King
	<b>Counters</b> <b>Coffee Hour</b>	LouAnn Behrens, Janet Walsh John & Sara Martin

## MANY THANKS

December 15<sup>th</sup> was indeed a busy day at Faith. During worship, our Sunday School children delivered a short nativity play, complete with “costumes” and sang a Christmas carol to the delight of the congregation. Next came decorating the sanctuary and putting up our Christmas tree. Many hands helped make the project fun and it was finished in record time. While this was going on, several others worked on wrapping the gifts for delivery to our Christmas families. On December 22<sup>nd</sup> a group of carolers visited some of our shut-ins to sing a few Christmas carols and deliver a poinsettia. Some carols were accompanied with kazoos. The carolers concluded the evening with a covered dish supper at the Gibson’s.

Thanks to everyone who was a part of this very busy and rewarding Advent season.



## WOMEN OF THE ELCA

Twenty women plus Pastor Steve enjoyed the annual Christmas luncheon. WELCA presented Pastor a gift of appreciation. Everyone helped wrap packages for the Christmas families, packed cookies for the shut-ins, and inventoried the gifts for the residents at Good Samaritan Home. Marilyn and Donna delivered them to the home, which is now known as Kenwood Manor the following week in plenty of time for their Christmas party. The staff was most appreciative for the gifts for their residents. Many, many, many thanks to all who helped out with these projects. We hope to add some joy to the Christmas season for all these folks.

The January meeting is Tuesday, January 21, 2014 at 10 am at church. Join us as we continue the Bible study of Mark.



## DINNER CLUB

The annual Christmas party was enjoyed by a large group of revelers. Larry Lansing’s birthday was also celebrated with a fancily decorated cake. Mother Nature wasn’t very cooperative with her gift of snow. But, thanks to the St. John taxi service nearly everyone who had made a reservation was able to make it—and everyone made it home safely. The gift exchange was speeded up a little by limiting the number of times a gift could be “stolen” and the happy crowd was on their way before the travel was impossible. Everyone made it home safely and most arrived at worship on Sunday morning. The committee of Polly & Bob Hayward, Michele & Fred Howard, and LouAnn Behrens served a delicious meal of Chicken Cordon Bleu, noodles, salad and ice cream and cake. All this was preceded by yummy appetizers. A great time was had by all.

The January meeting will be on Saturday, January 11<sup>th</sup> at 6:30 pm at church with Gunther and Irene Pagel, Janel Walsh, Marilyn Niles, Helen Inglis, Barb & Larry Boord, Donna VanZandt and Stephanie & Ben Wagar as hosts. Make your reservation with one of the hosts by Wednesday, January 8.

## ANNUAL CONGREGATIONAL MEETING

**SUNDAY, JANUARY 19<sup>th</sup> following worship.**

## NEWSLETTER DEADLINE

The February newsletter deadline is Sunday, January 19. 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.