

Following Faith

The Monthly Newsletter of
Faith Lutheran Church

July & August 2012



**" For That Which
Makes for
Goodness and
Quality**

An American businessman was at the pier of a small, coastal Mexican village when a small boat with just one fisherman docked. Inside the small boat were several large yellow fin tuna. The American complimented the Mexican on the quality of his fish and asked how long it took to catch them. The Mexican replied only a little while.

The American then asked why didn't he stay out longer and catch more fish. The Mexican said he had enough to support his family's immediate needs.

The American then asked, "But what do you do with the rest of your time?"

The Mexican fisherman said, "I sleep late; fish a little; play with my children; take siesta with my wife, Maria; stroll into the village each evening where I sip wine and play guitar with my amigos; I have a full and busy life, señor."

The American scoffed, "I am a Harvard MBA and could help you. You should spend more time fishing; and with the proceeds, buy a bigger boat; with the proceeds from the bigger boat, you could buy several boats; eventually you would have a fleet of fishing boats. Instead of selling your catch to a middleman, you would sell directly to the processor, eventually opening your own cannery. You would control the product, processing and distribution. You would need to leave this small coastal fishing village and move to Mexico City, then Los Angeles and eventually New York City where you will run your expanding enterprise."

The Mexican fisherman asked, "But, señor, how long will this all take?"
To which the American replied, "Fifteen to 20 years."

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

**Sunday morning worship: 10:30 a.m.
Sunday School: will resume in the Fall**

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 morning worship is at 10:30 am

"But what then, señor?"

The American laughed and said that's the best part. "When the time is right, you would announce an IPO and sell your company stock to the public and become very rich; you would make millions."

"Millions, señor? Then what?"

The American said, "Then you would retire and move to a small coastal fishing village where you would sleep late, fish a little, play with your kids, take siesta with your wife, stroll to the village in the evenings where you could sip wine and play your guitar with your amigos."

During this time of year when we typically get away, geographically or simply "mentally", may you be blessed with God's refreshment and re-creation. Perhaps you will fish a little, play with your kids, take more than a few siestas, sleep late, and enjoy the evening with friends. Most of all, may we remember why we work... and may we remember just exactly what and Who it is that leads to Life.

Pastor Steve

AMONG OUR PEOPLE

Sick and Recuperating: **Julia Cannon** continues as a resident of Eddy Nursing Home. However, for the time being, she is no longer under Hospice Care. **Cay Moss** continues to undergo testing for some respiratory problems. She is adapting well to her new dialysis treatment which is far less stressful than before.

Wedding: **Shane Kelly** and **Kayla O'Brien** were married at Faith on Saturday, June 16. Congratulations and God's Blessings!

Deaths: **Evelyn Rafun** died Saturday morning, June 16, at Samaritan Hospital. She would have celebrated her 91st birthday a day later, June 17. Evelyn had a very active life up until the week prior to her death. She stayed busy with various crafts and hobbies and was a superb care taker for her family. She worked at Samaritan Hospital for over 30 years and was faithful to her church, attending worship just the week before her sudden illness. Funeral services were held at Faith on Tuesday, June 19. **Donald Zepf** died suddenly and peacefully, on Sunday evening, June 17, at Van Rensselaer Manor. He too was 90 years old. Don had just entered Hospice Care following a fall and progressive weakness while at home with his wife, Gladys. Don was a great family man, a continuous joker, and had a wonderful career with the telephone company. Both of these members will be greatly

missed by those who knew them. They were both free and giving souls! Please keep both family and friends in your prayers. **Sally Widman**, Fred Howard's sister died unexpectedly on Tuesday, June 19. She had been battling a rare blood disease, MDS, but was not thought to be in any immediate danger. Sarah Elizabeth (Sally) was married to George Widman and they had two sons. The funeral was in Collegville, Pa. at Trinity Reformed Church, United Church of Christ, on Friday, June 22.

GRADUATIONS

Shaunna Simmons graduated from Lansingburgh High School. She will continue her education at St. Thomas Aquinas University having earned both an academic scholarship as well as an athletic scholarship to play soccer. **Austin Cordes** graduated from Siena College with a Bachelor of Arts with majors in Political Science and Spanish. The **St. Johns** celebrated two graduations, **Nicholas** received a Bachelor of Science in Biomedical Engineering from Western Massachusetts University and **Michelle** was awarded her Masters of Science in Education with a degree in Mental Health Counseling from the College of St. Rose. **Donald Lansing** graduated from the Albany School of Pharmacy with a degree in Pharmacy.

COUNCIL SUMMARY

A fair amount of time was spent on a variety of financial issues. These issues included:

- expenses for the handicap bathroom
- use of the Mission Investment Fund
- where to put and how to use the money received from the MacKenzie estate
- consent given to Pastor to purchase a new computer
- where to do our banking

There are concerns with the amount of work our sexton has been doing. Pastor Steve has had numerous discussions with the gentleman staying in the annex. Those discussions will continue.

A variety of maintenance projects are being planned. They include fixing the pipes between the sacristy and library, work in the kitchen and hopefully another painting day on the outside of the church.

For any concerns or problems, please advise Pastor or any Council member. We will address issues at our next meeting on Monday, August 20, 2012 at 7:00 p.m.

Donna Van Zandt Pro-Tem Secretary

GIVE ELECTRONICALLY !

As the summer season approaches and your thoughts turn to travel and vacations, we want to remind you to consider using our electronic giving program. It is convenient for you and provides much-needed donation consistency for our church during the summer months. Simply log on to our web site, www.faithlutherantroy.com and click on the

GIVE NOW

button on the home page to set up your automatic contributions. Contact Treasurer Barbara Boord if you have any questions.

SERVING FAITH - JULY

July 1	Altar	Donna St. John, Mary Frazer, Karen Cordes
	Lay Assistant	Rich Anderson
	Ushers	Diana Reiker, Jim Peters
	Counters	Michele & Fred Howard
	Coffee Hour	Bob & Donna Gibson
July 8	Altar	Donna St. John, Mary Frazer, Karen Cordes
	Lay Assistant	Aaron Cordes
	Ushers	Pauline Lupo, Nadeen Thompson
	Counters	Evelyn & Bill Jarosz
	Coffee Hour	Gene & Donna St. John
July 15	Altar	Merilyn Niles, Helen Inglis, Janet Walsh
	Lay Assistant	Donna Gibson
	Ushers	Irene Pagel, Carol Perrott
	Counters	Donna & Bob Gibson
	Coffee Hour	Errol & Heather Bull
July 22	Altar	Merilyn Niles, Helen Inglis, Janet Walsh
	Ushers	Ron Moss, Bill Speanburg
	Lay Assistant	Bob Gibson
	Counters	Irene Pagel, CarolynRouse
	Coffee Hour	Speanburg Family
July 29	Altar	Donna Gibson, Joyce Duncan, Pat Brundige
	Lay Assistant	Fred Howard
	Ushers	Donna Truland
	Counters	Mildred Lalanne, Janet Walsh
	Coffee Hour	Nadeen Thompson

SERVING FAITH -AUGUST

August 5	Altar	Donna Gibson, Joyce Duncan, Pat Brundige
	Lay Assistant	Rich Anderson
	Ushers	B. Morgan, B Speanburg, B. Stevens
	Counters	Polly & Bob Hayward
	Coffee Hour	Sara & John Martin
August 12	Altar	Polly Hayward, Kay Young, LouAnn Behrens
	Lay Assistant	Bill Maloney
	Ushers	Diana Reiker, Jim Peters
	Counters	Michelle & Fred Howard
	Coffee Hour	Irene Pagel, Carolyn Rouse
August 19	Altar	Polly Hayward, Kay Young, LouAnn Behrens
	Lay Assistant	Rebecca Truland
	Ushers	Rikki Franklyn, Cay Moss
	Counters	Donna & Bob Gibson
	Coffee Hour	TBD
August 26	Altar	Pam Perras, Evelyn Jarosz, Donna St. John
	Lay Assistant	Rich Anderson
	Ushers	Roberta & Rob Hayward
	Counters	Irene Pagel, CarolynRouse
	Coffee Hour	TBD

FLOWERS FOR JULY & AUGUST

July 1: To the Glory of God

July 8: To the Glory of God

July 15: In memory of Margaret Speanburg
Given by The Speanburg Family

July 22: To the Glory of God

July 29: In memory of Dorothy and Leo Perras
Given by The Perras Family

August 5: To the Glory of God

August 12: To the Glory of God

August 19: In memory of Eileen Thompson
Given by Nadeen Thompson

August 26: In honor of Carolyn and Bill's 54th
Wedding Anniversary.
Given by the Family

SYNOD ASSEMBLY

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This year's Synod Assembly was held in Rochester, June 7th through 9th. Representing our congregation this year were Pastor Cordes, Donna VanZandt, David Truland and Rachel Truland who participated in Youth Convo.

A global flavor permeated our 2012 Synod Assembly, highlighted by the presence of our honored guests, Bishop Stephen Dubé of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in Zimbabwe (ELCZ) and his wife Mrs. Effina Dubé. Bishop Dubé led the assembly in opening devotions and shared stories of mission in a workshop.

The representative from the ELCA Churchwide Organization was Tammy Jackson, the Director for International Leadership Development in the Global Mission Unit of the ELCA.

Some members of the Assembly put the talk about mission into action by volunteering at Mary's Place Refugee Center during the Assembly. They assisted some Nepalese refugees with their English lesson, supervised children on a playground and organized donated food and clothing. Another group worked at FOODLINK, a regional food bank that distributes food to over 450 member agencies in Western and Central New York.

Youth Convo participants served as pages, greeters, worship leaders and more. They also offered a prayer labyrinth for use by Assembly participants and took sandwiches out onto the streets to feed the homeless.

Thanks were extended to Sandy Moncrief for her 12 years of service as Synod Secretary. Thanks were also expressed for the service of retiring Synod Council members and Conference Deans. The synod's new Director of Evangelical Mission and Assistant to the Bishop, Pastor Judith vanOsdol, was installed at Friday Evening's Eucharist, as were newly elected Secretary, Patrice (Patty) Sampson-Bouchard and members of the Synod Council.

Synod Assembly documents are available on the synod's website, upstatenysynod.org, and a printed copy of the assembly wrap-up is posted on the missions bulletin board.

OUR NEW WEB TO DEBUT

We are hopeful that by the time you receive this newsletter that our new website will be on-line. The web address, www.faithlutherantroy.com remains the same, but we have transferred hosting and design of our web pages to Connected Word, which

designs & hosts websites for churches and is endorsed by the ELCA.

For those of you who have tried to access our website in the past few weeks, we apologize for the interruption in the availability of our site while our domain name and content were transferred to Connected Word. We believe the new pages will be worth the wait as we have lots more options, easier editing and updating, a calendar, pictures and more. For example, if you lose your newsletter and are trying to remember if you are the assistant or the counters, or on coffee hour – you will be able to check the schedule on line.

We'll be adding content to our web pages over the summer, so if you have suggestions, please let Pam Perras or Bob Gibson know.

PS: A special thank you to Pam Perras who has been our webmaster and has been responsible for all the maintenance and updating of our web pages for many years. With our new system we can have more people helping to keep our web up-to-date and relevant.

Bob Gibson, Council President



DINNER CLUB

In June a covered dish supper was enjoyed by all, followed by "horse racing." Thanks to all the great cooks and the hosts and hostesses: Bill & Evelyn Jarosz, Pauline Lupe, Nadeen Thompson, and Ben & Stephanie Wager.

The July meeting will be the annual pool party at Marilyn Niles' home. Come at 3pm to swim and dinner will be served at 5:30 pm. Come join in the fun. Marilyn Niles will be assisted by Helen Inglis, Janet Walsh, Donna VanZandt, and Bob & Donna Gibson.

All are invited to join a group that will be attending the Playhouse in the Park (Washington Park in Albany) on July 11 to see Cabaret and again in August (date to be determined) to see Hairspray. Contact Polly Hayward for more information and to make reservations.



WOMEN OF THE ELCA



The Women of the ELCA held their annual picnic supper at Marilyn Niles in June and will not be meeting again until September. The date for the next meeting will be Tuesday, September 18 at 7pm at Church. We will resume the Bible study "To Follow and to Serve: The Gospel of Mark" with Session 2. Bring your October 2011 Gather magazine. We will also discuss changing of our meeting time.

Thank you to all who contributed fabric and sewing skills by making the back packs for this year's synodical unit in-gathering. Some items have already been contributed. Requested items still needed for each bag are:

- Four 70 page 8 ½" X 10" notebooks (wide or college ruled)
- One ruler with both centimeters & inches
- One blunt scissors
- Five unsharpened #2 pencils with erasers
- One pencil sharpener
- Five ballpoint pens (no gel ink)
- One box crayons (16 or 24 count)
- One 2 ½ " eraser

We appreciate all of your contributions. The back packs will be distributed both locally and globally through Lutheran World Relief.

The annual Synodical Unit Convention will be held September 14-16, 2012 at the Chatauqua Suites in Mayville, NY (right on Chatauqua Lake) and we will celebrate the 35th Anniversary of Women of the ELCA. The scripture reference is "Rejoice in the Lord always, again I say rejoice" Phil.4:4. There will be keynote address, Bible Study, workshops banquet with entertainment and lots of fun and learning throughout the weekend. See Marilyn for registration forms and more information. Registration deadline for the \$75 fee is August 24. Hotel room reservations are made separately at \$79.99 per room of 1 – 4 people. After Aug. 23, the room rate goes up to \$109.99.

Join us for a weekend of worship, learning, fun and fellowship.

Donna Gibson
Secretary

This 2011-2012 Sunday School year ended with a wonderful and fun filled picnic held on June 10th. The kids and the congregation all had a great time eating the good food and bouncing in the Noah's Ark bouncy house. The congregation thoroughly enjoyed the kids' rendition of "The B-I-B-L-E" and the children were very proud of themselves. Although it was mostly kids in the bouncy house, a few adults were brave enough to get some good bouncing in! I would like to thank everyone that attended the picnic and recognized the children for all the hard work they do during the year. In addition, I would like to extend my appreciation to everyone that helped set up and take down everything as well as those who donated food and other items for the picnic.

I hope everyone enjoys their summer and gets some relaxation in before we start another Sunday School year on September 16th. As I have mentioned in previous articles, we will be looking to change the program to fit our children's needs for this fall so if any one has any ideas regarding this issue please let me know.

As always, if you have any questions or would like to volunteer to help out with the children's education, please contact me at 222-8566 or s.martin@hvcc.edu.

Sara Martin
Education Committee Chair



OUR FAITH AT WORK

Our mission offerings for the month of **July** will be in support of the work of the YWCA of the Greater Capital Region.

The YWCA is the oldest and largest multicultural women's organization in the world. They have a long and 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.

Women turn to the YWCA for job training, career counseling, child care, health and fitness. They gain a renewed spirit, new skills and stronger lives.

Please consider helping to support this worthy organization.

Our mission offerings for the month of **August** will be in support of the work 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 children living on the streets 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 a sense of "family" while residing with a house mother.

Your continued support for this ministry is greatly appreciated.

David Truland, Missions Chair

EVENTS FOR JULY & AUGUST

Sunday	July 1	Worship @ 10:30
Sunday	July 8	Worship @ 10:30
Wednesday	July 11	Park Playhouse
Saturday	July 14	Dinner Club at M. Niles, 3pm for swimming, dinner @ 5:30
Sunday	July 15	Worship @ 10:30
Sunday	July 22	Worship @ 10:30
Sunday	July 29	Worship @ 10:30
Sunday	August 5	Worship @ 10:30
Sunday	August 12	Worship @ 10:30
Sunday	August 19	Worship @ 10:30
Monday	August 20	Council @ 7pm
Sunday	August 26	Worship @ 10:30

NEWSLETTER DEADLINE

The September newsletter deadline is Sunday, August 19. Please place your articles in the box in the Church office by Sunday, or email them to DSGLVA@aol.com by Monday morning.