

# Following Faith

The Monthly Newsletter of  
Faith Lutheran Church

September 2012



**Go, Go**

Sometime back, the magazine *Runner's World*, mentioned a unique phenomenon which they called, "The Bislet Effect."

The Bislet Effect is named for Bislet Stadium in Oslo, Norway. More than 50 track-and-field records have been broken over the years at Bislet. No other stadium can boast of this kind of record setting. And it's not because of the frigid weather in Norway. Runners do not run faster just to keep warm, though that might make sense to some of us. And it's not the altitude. Wind resistance is no different in Oslo than in most other cities.

The secret is the track itself. It is a narrow, six-lane track, and the stands that surround it are very steep. According to *Runners World*, when 21,000 fans all scream, "Go, go!" in this kind of up close and personal setting, you run faster. The crowd forces you to keep your rhythm and push harder for one more stretch, for one more turn.

Sometime back, almost 2,000 years ago, a letter written to a group of people known as the *Hebrews*, mentions a unique phenomenon which some call "The Christian Effect." The Christian Effect has shown itself through every generation of its followers, enduring wars, persecutions, and countless roadblocks, rendering amazing resolve to establish hope and show forth peace. Observers are often astonished as to how Christian followers find their courage and will to stay the course. Participants have often attributed their endurance to a word of encouragement from the letter itself. Often cited are these very words, "Therefore, since we are surrounded by such a great cloud of witnesses, let us throw off everything that hinders and the sin that

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**50 Leverage Road**  
**Troy, New York 12182**  
**(518) 237-4641**  
[www.faithlutherantroy.com](http://www.faithlutherantroy.com)

**Sunday morning worship: 10:30 a.m.**  
**Sunday School: Resumes on Sept 16.**

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 at 9:15 am** (adult Bible Study)  
after Gospel lesson (5<sup>th</sup> gr. & under)

**Sunday morning worship is at 10:30 am**

so easily entangles, and let us run with perseverance the race marked out for us. Let us fix our eyes on Jesus the author and perfecter of our faith, who for the joy set before him endured the cross, scorning its shame, and sat down at the right hand of the throne of God."

As with the Bislet Effect, The Christian Effect, seems to derive much of its accomplishment from the support and enthusiasm of their fans, as well as the One who has run the race before them. Isn't it amazing what a little close up encouragement can do to keep us at our best? Keep the Faith!

*Pastor Steve*

**AMONG OUR PEOPLE**

**Sick and Recuperating:** **Julia Cannon** continues as a resident at Eddy Nursing Home. **Cay Moss** has been undergoing tests for her heart which has determined some problems with two valves. **Polly Hayward** received a hip replacement at St. Mary's Hospital and expects to go to rehabilitation for a short time. **Paul Franklin**, PJ's father, had heart surgery and is now home doing quite well.

**Death: Eric Johansen**, son of Nancy Johansen, was found dead at his residence. The cause of his death is still unknown. He was 39 years. His funeral was August 14. Our Christian sympathy is extended to his mother, Nancy, and his three brothers, his extended family and all his friends

**COUNCIL SUMMARY**

The Council did not meet in July. The summary of the August/September meeting, held on August 20<sup>th</sup>, will appear in the next newsletter.

*Diana Rieker, Secretary*

**ADULT BIBLE STUDY**

The Adult Bible class will resume on **October 7<sup>th</sup>** and will meet 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 on October 7<sup>th</sup>.

**FLOWERS FOR SEPTEMBER**

- Sept. 2:** To the Glory of God
- Sept. 9:** To the Glory of God
- Sept. 16:** In memory of Bill Niles  
Given by Marilyn
- Sept. 23:** In memory of Arthur Thompson  
Given by his daughter, Nadeen
- Sept. 30** To the Glory of God

**SERVING FAITH**

<b>Sept. 2</b>	<b>Altar</b> <b>Lay Assistant</b> <b>Ushers</b> <b>Counters</b> <b>Coffee Hour</b>	Pam Perras, Evelyn Jarosz, Donna St.John Aaron Cordes Beth & Joe King Mildred Lalanne, Janet Walsh Speanburg family
<b>Sept. 9</b>	<b>Altar</b> <b>Lay Assistant</b> <b>Ushers</b> <b>Counters</b> <b>Coffee Hour</b>	Donna Gibson, Sally Davis, Roberta Hayward Donna Gibson Pauline Lupo, Nadeen Thompson Evelyn & Bill Jarosz Tracey Maloney
<b>Sept. 16</b>	<b>Altar</b> <b>Lay Assistant</b> <b>Ushers</b> <b>Counters</b> <b>Coffee Hour</b>	Donna Gibson, Sally Davis, Roberta Hayward Bob Gibson Irene Pagel, Carol Perrott Polly & Bob Hayward Heather & Errol Bull
<b>Sept. 23</b>	<b>Altar</b> <b>Lay Assistant</b> <b>Ushers</b> <b>Counters</b> <b>Coffee Hour</b>	Nadeen Thompson, Mary Frazer, Janet Walsh Fred Howard Ron Moss, Bill Speanburg Joyce Duncan, Carol Perrott Sara & John Martin
<b>Sept. 30</b>	<b>Altar</b> <b>Lay Assistant</b> <b>Ushers</b> <b>Counters</b> <b>Coffee Hour</b>	Nadeen Thompson, Mary Frazer, Janet Walsh Carol Karpian B. Morgan, B. Speanburgh, B. Stevens Michele & Fred Howard Rikki Franklin

**SAVE THE DATE!**

This year's **Hog Roast at the Howard Farm** will be held on **Saturday September 15**. We hope that you you can make it!

Here is the day's schedule

- 2:00 PM Come to Hang Out and enjoy the fall day.  
Walk in the fields, volleyball, etc! Rain or shine!
- 4:00 PM Afternoon hayride
- 5:15 PM Grace by Pastor and dinner is served!
- 7:00 PM Evening festivities begin – Bonfire, marshmallows, fireworks, and moonlight hayride.
- ??? PM Home again – That's up to you!

Adults - \$7.00 Young People under 15 Free

To be included see Eugene or Donna St. John, Pam or Leo Perras, or see or call Fred or Michele Howard at 753 4288

## WORSHIP ASSISTANTS

Have you ever given any thought to helping the church just a little bit more? Here's your chance! Why not consider offering your help as a Worship Assistant? Helping as a Lay Assistant, an Usher, or a Counter of Sunday's offering are always welcomed and needed. A simple way of giving just a little bit more. You may choose to help in just one area or perhaps all three. All of these jobs are quite easy. If you would like to have your name added to the list of assistants or if you have questions regarding what each job entails please speak with Donna Van Zandt.

## CHOIR REHEARSALS

Do you enjoy music? Do you like to sing? If so, why not consider joining the Choir at Faith. Anyone and everyone is welcome to join us as we begin rehearsing for the Fall Season on Thursday, September 6th. 7:00 p.m. Give it a try. Come and join in on the fun while praising God! Should you have any questions, feel free to speak with Donna Van Zandt



## WOMEN OF THE ELCA

Faith's Women of the ELCA will resume their regular meeting schedule on Tuesday, September 18 at 7 pm at the Church. The Bible Study on Mark will continue where we will finish the "Mother and Brothers" Session. Bring your October 2011 Gather magazine.

During the summer we made drawstring backpacks for Lutheran World Relief and local agencies. Many thanks to everyone in the congregation who helped us collect all the items needed to stock them.

We also collected towels for Joseph's House where their supply had been exhausted. Again we really appreciate the congregation's generosity in providing new and gently used towels for this agency.

Quilt making continues weekly. We delivered 11 quilts to St. Paul's Center at the beginning of the summer and continued working on more. We are using up donated fabric and buying new when needed and buying batting, thanks again to your generous contributions. These quilts are greatly appreciated by both the staff and guests at the Center. "God's Work—Our Hands"

Mark your calendar for Saturday, November 3. This is the date for the Fall Women of the ELCA Conference Assembly. Watch for the next newsletter for location, time and theme.

The annual convention is being held on September 14-16 in Mayville. Donna will be attending and would love to have company on the trip to Jamestown. Next month's newsletter will have a report of the business and other activities.



The summer has certainly gone by quickly and it is time to think about Sunday School again. The 2012-2013 Sunday School year will start on Sunday, September 16<sup>th</sup>. For the time being, Sunday School will continue to be held during the worship service immediately following the Gospel lesson. Sunday School Rally Day will be held on Sunday, September 23<sup>rd</sup>. This will be a special day for the children and the congregation and we will officially "kick off" the school year.

Once again, I will be looking for volunteers to help out with Sunday School this year. If you would like to teach or help out in any other fashion, please let me know. Also, if you know any children or families that would be interested in Sunday School at Faith Lutheran, please bring them by for a Sunday, it would be fun.

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](mailto:s.martin@hvcc.edu).

*Sara Martin*  
Education Committee Chair



## DINNER CLUB

The July gathering of the Dinner Club was held at the home of Marilyn Niles. Using the theme of "Swim & Garden Party, attendees were asked to bring a small "garden item" for a Chinese auction. Each guest received one ticket and additional tickets were sold to benefit the fund for the handicapped accessible bathroom at church. The Club also donated its income from the dinner. A total of \$117 was raised for the fund.

Members of the Club and others enjoyed two trips to Washington Park in Albany with sandwiches under the big tree and the Park Playhouse productions of Cabaret and Hairspray.

## OUR FAITH AT WORK

Our mission for the month of September will be Habitat for Humanity of Rensselaer County (HFHRC). Founded in 1997, HFHRC is one of 1,600 Habitat affiliates throughout the country. Since 1997, HFHRC has strived to build one house per year and, with the help of volunteers and donations, hopes to increase that number to three houses every two years.

Partner families are selected on the basis of need, ability to pay for their homes and a willingness to participate in the construction of the homes. The incomes of partner families is usually between 40 and 70 percent of the median income for the area. A selected family contributes 400 hours toward the construction and pays the full cost of their mortgage, insurance and taxes.

HFHRC receives support from churches, schools and civic groups. Volunteers provide most of the labor, and individual and corporate donors provide money and materials to build the homes.

Your continued support is greatly appreciated

In October, we will be adding a new mission to our calendar. Mission contributions in October will go to the "Feed the Roots" campaign of our Upstate New York Synod. "Feed the Roots" is a capital appeal to benefit Outdoor Ministry, Campus Ministry and Seminary Education.

Throughout October we will be reading stories about how these ministries are vital to the life and health of our Church. You can visit web pages dedicated to those stories and other details of the campaign at <http://www.upstatensynod.org/capital-campaign>.

*David Truland*, Missions Chair

## FAITH WEBSITE

Our new website is up and running at [www.faithlutherantroy.com](http://www.faithlutherantroy.com). We hope it will be a useful tool for people using the web to explore Troy area churches, visitors, prospective members and our current members. Here are a couple of website highlights for our newsletter readers:

- From the "News and Events" menu bar select "Serving Faith" to see the current schedule of altar guild, worship assistants, ushers, counters, and coffee hour hosts. If you lost your newsletter, check here to see when you are scheduled.
- Also under "News and Events" select "Newsletters" to view the current and recent editions of the newsletter. These are copies of the printed newsletter in PDF format.
- In the center of the menu bar, select "Calendar" and a monthly calendar will be displayed. Once you have opened the calendar, if you hover your cursor over an event, a small window will appear with additional details. If you click on an event in the calendar, a new window will open with full details.
- On the lower right hand side of our web pages you will see "Members Login" Under the login button just above the small calendar is a link to "Create an account" You will then see a screen to enter your name & address information and at the bottom of that screen you will see a spot to enter the wavy characters above (this confirms you are a real person & not a computer robot). When you submit your request, we receive notice of your request and you will receive an automated e-mail response when your logon has been approved. TRY IT NOW. Once we have activated your account you will be able to view pages restricted to our members only, including our updated directory.

We hope you find our new website useful. Let us know if you have any suggestions

## THANKS

Have you noticed the kitchen ceiling recently? Thanks to Bill Jarosz & Bev Lanteigne for cleaning and painting the ceiling grids and installing new ceiling tiles (with a little help from Bob Gibson). It looks great.

## PAINTING DAY – SATURDAY SEPT. 22

Anyone available to participate in the final day of painting the exterior of our church please join us for as few or as many hours as you can on September 22<sup>nd</sup>. Lunch will be provided.

*Errol Bull*, Property Committee chair

## GRANT RECEIVED

Faith Lutheran Church has received a grant of just over \$1,500 from *The Harry Sr., Elizabeth J. (Schlegel), Harry Jr., Richard B. and Robert J. Bovee Fund of the Lutheran Community Foundation*. Our thanks to both the family and the Lutheran Community Foundation

## LITERACY VOLUNTEERS TUTOR TRAINING

Faith is hosting the Fall Tutor Training Workshop for Literacy Volunteers on Tuesdays, September 11, 18, 25, October 2, 9, 23. Workshops run from 6 – 9 pm. Volunteers are trained to tutor adults who need to improve their reading and writing skills or their listening, speaking and understanding of English. Do you have 2 hours per week to help an adult in the Troy area improve these crucial skills? If you would be interested in volunteering, just call the Literacy Volunteers of Rensselaer County office at 274-8526.

If this time schedule is not good for you, there is another training workshop planned for November at the Rensselaer Library. These sessions will be held on Monday and Thursday afternoons from 12:30 to 3:30 pm. Training will also be held after the first of the year. Volunteers are always needed as tutors and for a number of other projects as well. Just give the office a call.

## SPECIAL EVENTS THIS MONTH

<b>Sat.</b>	<b>Sept. 15</b>	Hog Roast at the Howard's Farm Dinner @ 5:15pm
<b>Tues.</b>	<b>Sept. 18</b>	WELCA @ 7pm
<b>Sat</b>	<b>Sept. 22</b>	Paint Day 9- ?? Lunch provided
<b>Sunday</b>	<b>Sept. 23</b>	Sunday School Rally Day

## NEWSLETTER DEADLINE

The October newsletter deadline is Sunday, September 23rd. 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.