



The Faith Lutheran Newsletter is a monthly publication of Faith Evangelical Lutheran Church, a congregation of the Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod.

From Pastor Scudder's Desk

From a brother pastor: Why Should the Average Lutheran Kid Go to Church? (A Letter to My Two Boys)

(By "Kid" I'm interpreting the author to mean ages 0-infinity – probably not his meaning!)

Okay, guys. I've never told you that "you are the future of the Church." And I never will. The Bible says the Church is "built on the foundation of the apostles and prophets, Jesus Christ Himself being the chief cornerstone" (Ephesians 2:20). Jesus is the future of the Church. Jesus is "the same yesterday, today and forever" (Hebrews 13:8). Jesus has a future, and so every person connected to Jesus has a future.

That's why, more than anything else, your mom and I want you connected with Jesus. That's why I baptized each of you. That's why we read all the Bible stories to you as toddlers. That's why we have a time of devotion when we can actually eat together. That's why we've prayed for you from day one. That's why we sent you to a Lutheran grade school. That's why we made sure you knew that catechism. That's why we always go to church. And that's why we are LCMS Lutherans. The LCMS is simply the best thing going because for orthodox Lutherans, it's all about Jesus – all about being connected to Jesus.

The Church has a profound responsibility to pay attention to young people. The Bible teaches that all over the place. Today, the Missouri Synod has just less than half the high-school age young people that it had when I graduated from high school in 1980. Why? Mainly because we've just followed the national trend of European-descent Americans who are having fewer children.

In any case, as LCMS young people, you are a precious commodity, indeed! But don't let that go to your heads. The Bible teaches that young people are very much prone to particular and serious sins. "Remember not the sins of my youth (Psalm 25:7). And I hardly have to tell you

what they are. Luther said the sins of youth tend to be sexual, while the sins of old age are greed. All sin condemns. "The wages of sin is death" (Romans 6:23). I've never pulled any punches in teaching you what the Bible says about sin. We deserve hell, pure and simple. "But the free gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus (Romans 6:23). And so we've always spoken forgiveness at home to each other. We're sinners. We are forgiven sinners. And so we sinners forgive others who sin against us. We are Gospel people to those around us. Christianity is not about ethics. It's about Jesus.

The Sunday liturgy shows you why we go to church. Luther said we are beggars who stand before God with an empty sack. What happens in the liturgy? The pastor starts us off in the Name of the Triune God. God's there to do His stuff! Then in the confession of sins, "I, a poor miserable sinner . . ." we say, "Dear God, I've got an empty sack!" If you don't think you're a sinner, if you don't think your bag is empty, you'll never understand why we go to church. "In the stead and by the command of my Lord Jesus Christ I forgive you all your sins," says the pastor. He drops a load of forgiveness, grace and mercy into your bag. And you say, "Amen, yup! It's in my bag!" Then the Scriptures are read, and more grace and Gospel and mercy are dropped in. Then the sermon is preached, and you are told that you are damned by the Law, but that Jesus comes only for sinners. Hooray! "I came not for the righteous but the unrighteous" (Mark 2:17). And at the end of the sermon, you say (and don't leave this to the pastor), "Amen! Got 'er in the bag!" Then you kneel at the altar to receive the body and blood of Jesus. "Take and eat, Christ's body and blood for you, for the forgiveness of all your sins." And you say again, "Amen! It's in my bag!" This continues right through the Aaronic blessing: "The Lord bless you and keep you, make His face shine upon you, and give you peace."

(Continued on page 2)

Weekly Schedule:

- Sunday School & Adult Bible Study
8:15 am
- Divine Service
9:30 am
- D & T Classes
Sundays 11:00am
- Women's Bible Study
Monday evenings
6:30pm
- Men's Bible Study
Thursday mornings
7:00am

Special Activities:

- Board of Ed
Monday, July 1st
@ 6:00pm
- Board of Elders
Thursday, July 11th
@ 7:00pm
- Council Meeting
Sunday, July 14th
after church (11am)

Lutheran Hour

Sundays beginning at
7:00am – KILJ FM 105.5
10:30am – KOKX 95.3



Son Shine Academy News

2024 CONNECTED

CONNECTED to Peace! There is so much in the media today that is not peaceful and it can be a challenge to keep children from seeing and hearing things that are frightening or difficult for them to understand. It's important for children to know that God is always present and that He listens when they talk to Him. Children's prayers often tell what is of greatest importance or of concern to them. We want to encourage them to talk to Jesus about their needs and their joys, and to pray for others.

CONNECTED to Love! Faith experiences during a child's formative pre-primary years is so important. Make a commitment that every child in your life hears many times throughout the day. "Jesus loves you." Remind them after breakfast, before nap time, when they are playing outside in the big, beautiful world God made for them, and before they go to bed. Teach them simple songs and hymns that they can commit to memory.

Son Shine still has openings for the 3yr. old afternoon class. It meets from 12:30-3:30 on Tuesdays and Thursdays. Help us spread the word. Help us make **CONNECTIONS** to families who need to hear about Jesus' **CONNECTION** to them.



From Pastor Scudder's Desk

(Continued from page 1)

"Amen! Amen! Amen! It's in the bag. I've got it tied up and hoisted on my shoulder as I head out of church.

Now, how shall I live with that big bag of forgiveness, grace and mercy? When my dad sins against me, what do I do? I open my bag and say, "Here, Dad, You misunderstood me and thought ill of me, but I forgive you 'cause I've been forgiven." Then that teacher at school drives you crazy, and you open your bag again. Then that awful bully harasses and embarrasses you, and when your emotions calm, you open your bag of grace and pray, "Forgive him, Lord. He doesn't know what he's doing. And he's hurting inside big time." Then you run into a friend who's really in need because her home life is chaos, and you show her love and compassion like Jesus. In fact, the mercy of Jesus is the greatest compelling factor for you to live a meaningful life of service and love to others.

This happens all week long. Then comes Sunday morning, and you find yourself in church again confessing, "Dear God, I've got an empty sack."

Honestly, boys, I'm frightened for you. This world is an absolute mess. But I'm also confident. Jesus grabbed you at the font, and He won't let go. "No one can snatch them out of my hand" (John 10:28). I'm proud of how you've grown. I'm proud of how you've stood the test. I'm proud of how you've kindly witnessed to Jesus in your young lives. And I'm absolutely sure the Church has a future because Jesus has a future, and He's made you His very own for eternity. "Be thou faithful unto death and I will give you the crown of life" (Revelation 2:10).

Dad

The Lord be with you! ... Amen!

Pastor Scudder

July Duties:

Elders

Nils Guldberg
Dave Towne

Altar Guild

Althea Weems

Acolytes

7/7 Addison Schroeder
7/14 Thorsen Guldberg
7/21 Cora Edwards
7/28 Dane Lehman

Ushers

Joe Ruby
Jeremy Andreasen

A big THANK YOU to all members who served as altar guild, ushers, and coffee servers last month. This is just another part of STEWARDSHIP in action at Faith. If you would like to help out in any of these areas, please contact the church office.

Serving In August

Elders

Joel Rees
Dana Kuster

Ushers

Cal Bloebaum
Nils Guldberg

Altar Guild

Melissa Bacher

Acolytes

8/4 Cooper Genkinger
8/11 Cort McCabe
8/18 Alanna Edwards
8/25 Addison Schroeder



"Get On Board!" —VBS this year is July 14-18 from 6:00-8:00 p.m.

Any help is appreciated, you will have fun! Thursday, July 18th is family night - the whole congregation is encouraged to attend and enjoy seeing what the kids learned.

Please help us get as many kids registered at:

<https://vbsmate.com/events/FaithLutheranMtPleasant/29392>.



Blood Drive— Monday, July 29th from 3:00-6:15p.m.

Sign up today by calling Libby Loescher at 319-931-3537 or online at bloodcenter.org.



WOW Book Club— will not meet in July. The next book is the fourth book in the Lynn Austin series titled "Faith of My Father's". All ladies are invited to attend our next meeting on Monday, August 12th at Amy Mabeus' home.

Summer Sunday School— will be held the first Sunday of each month. The next one will be July 7th at 8:15a.m.

Bulletin announcements due by end of the day on Wednesday of each week.

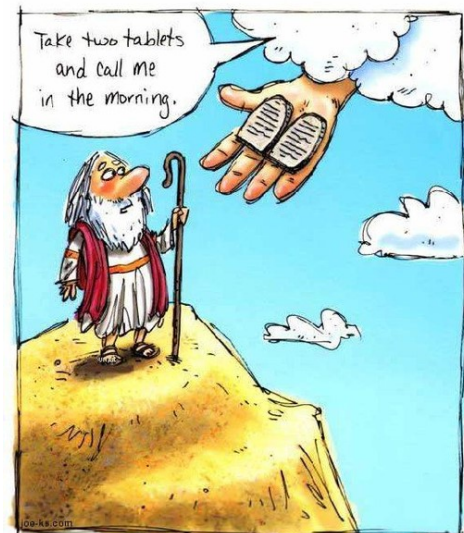
Newsletter items due by the 20th of each month.

July Birthdays

- 2 Emily Stark
- 3 Ian Bacher
- 3 Marty Schumacher
- 3 Aubrey Smith
- 9 Lauren George
- 11 Tim Sammons
- 13 Joel Rees
- 17 Jaylon Cotton
- 18 John Schill
- 18 Bonnie Sammons
- 19 Darian Cotton
- 19 Rebekah Hosford
- 20 Tyler Ruby
- 23 Delayna Cotton
- 23 Josh Nehring
- 23 Joe Nehring
- 26 Jason "Jay" Sammons
- 28 Nick Yoder
- 29 Amy Overton
- 30 Don Lange
- 30 Chelsey Bianchi

The Birthday Song

**A glad and Happy Birthday,
we wish to you our friends.
May God our heavenly Father,
a birthday blessing send.
A happy, happy birthday,
all beautiful with love.
And bright with many blessings,
from our dear Lord above.**



July 2024

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 Mount Pleasant, IA 52641

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Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	1 6:00pm Board Of Ed Meeting 6:30pm Women's Bible Study	2	3 Bulletin items due	4 7:00am Men's Bible Study 9:00am LWML Quilting	5	6
7 8:15am Sunday School 9:30am Divine Service 11:00am D & T	8 6:30pm Women's Bible Study	9	10 Bulletin items due	11 7:00am Men's Bible Study 9:00am LWML Quilting 7:00pm Elders Meeting	12	13
14 8:15am Sunday School 9:30am Divine Service 11:00am Church Council 6:00pm VBS	15 6:00pm VBS	16 6:00pm VBS	17 6:00pm VBS Bulletin items due	18 7:00am Men's Bible Study 9:00am LWML Quilting 6:00pm VBS Family Night	19	20 Newsletter items due
21 8:15am Sunday School 9:30am Divine Service 11:00am D & T	22 6:30pm Women's Bible Study	23	24 Bulletin items due	25 7:00am Men's Bible Study	26	27
28 8:15am Sunday School 9:30am Divine Service 11:00am D&T Mite Box Sunday	29 3:00pm—6:15pm Blood Drive 6:30pm Women's Bible Study	30	31 Bulletin items due			

Faith Lutheran Council Minutes
June 9, 2024

Call to order: Bob Eldridge called the meeting to order. The following members were present:
Bob Eldridge, Dana Kuster, Lisa Kuster, Keely Rees, David Rackow, Pastor and Shelby Ruby
Devotions/Prayer: Divine Service & Prayer

Reports of Officers:

Pastor's Report: nothing to report

President's Report: Bob reported new Constitutions are in progress.

Vice President's Report: nothing to report

Secretary's Report: nothing to report. Previous minutes were approved as printed.

Treasurer's Report: Bob reported Harvey says the church is in good standings financially.

Financial Secretary's Report: Bob reported Tim said all is going well.

Board Reports:

Elder's Report: nothing to report

Trustee's Report: Bob reported trim by the Fellowship Hall needs attention. A leak under the sink at the parsonage is being fixed.

Board of Education's Report: Lisa reported on the baptism that occurred on Sunday, June 9th. SonShine's 3 year old preschool afternoon class is half full. Paulette is doing Summer Sunday School once a month. Sunday school funds are being sent to Greenfield. The youth group did not go bowling.

Standing Committee Reports:

Old Threshers: nothing to report

Memorial: nothing to report

Special Committee Reports: nothing to report

Unfinished Business: nothing to report

New Business: nothing to report

Next Council Meeting: Sunday, July 14th after Church service

Adjournments: Closing: Lord's Prayer

Respectfully submitted: Shelby Ruby, Secretary

