

Shield of Faith

Faith Ev. Lutheran Church, 3430 East 51st Street, Minneapolis, MN 55417

612-729-5463, felc@q.com faithlutheranmpls.org, Pastor's e-mail – Pastor@faithlutheranmpls.org

February

Rev. Michael Middaugh, Pastor

2010



Nehemiah, Steward of the Lord

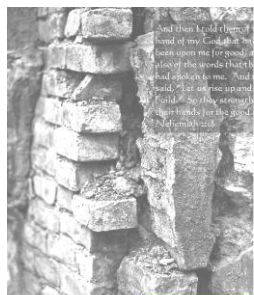
As we work through the book of Nehemiah on Sundays we are learning a lot about prayer and planning, leading and laboring. This great book of the Old Testament involves leadership, stewardship and vocation. It teaches us to recognize God's mission for His church and for our lives and to work hard, organizing ourselves to see that His mission is accomplished.

At Faith we are doing some new things this year to add more opportunities for people to get involved. In addition we are seeking new ways to connect with the neighborhood around us. To this end, I have been working with the Elders to put together a comprehensive report that will be a vision and purpose statement for the current and ongoing ministry here at Faith. If we are going to be on God's Mission of proclaiming his word and reaching out to others it is important for us to know what that looks like in this church.

This report will be called a Ministry Actions Plan or M.A.P. and will be available starting this month. It contains our fiscal report from 2009, the state of our current ministry and some goals for what we would like to do in the future. As this becomes available please take some time to read through it so you know what we are hoping to accomplish.

By God's grace, Faith Lutheran has been an outpost of ministry and witness for over 80 years. Our prayer is that Faith would continue in the same for another 80 years.

~Pastor Middaugh



Nehemiah Steward of the Lord

Baptismal Birthdays

2 – Amanda Hawkinson

2 – Alyssa Hawkinson

2 – Austen Hawkinson

6 – Pete Schoenike

9 – Dorothy Hanson

28 – Caleb Rollins

If your name is not included, please contact the office.

Faith Lutheran Lent Schedule

Ash Wednesday, Feb. 17th – Worship 7:00pm
with Imposition of Ashes and Communion (No
morning Bible study)

Wednesdays Feb. 24th through March 24th –
9:30am Bible Study, 7:00PM House Church

Maundy Thursday, April 1st – Worship, 7:00pm
with communion

Good Friday, April 2nd – Worship, 7:00pm

Easter Sunday, April 4th – Worship, 9:00am with
communion (breakfast served after)

On the Wednesday's of Lent we will be studying the Gospels in a Sermon Series called "The Lies of Lent." This series will focus on several characters involved with the passion week and how they were blinded from their savior by the lies of the world. During the Wednesday evening "House Church" services you will have a chance to hear from several other local pastors as they rotate from church to church. Wednesday's Feb 24th and March 17th Pastor Tom Volker (Mt. Zion), Wednesday's March 3rd and 24th Pastor Mark Johnson (Mt. Calvary).

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Men's Group

Faith is starting a Men's Group which will be a time for guys to gather for food, fellowship and some work projects. The goal is for this group to meet once per month on the third Saturday of the month. All men are invited. The first meeting will be February 20th at 9:30am. A pancake breakfast will be provided.

Voters' Assembly

The Voters' Assembly will hold its regular meeting on Sunday, February 21, at 10:15 am in the lower level of the church. Grab a snack and a cup of coffee provided by the 12:2 Student Ministries and stay for the Voter's Assembly.

Tabitha Circle

Tabitha will meet on Wednesday, February 3 beginning at 11:00 am. Bring a bag lunch. Dessert and beverage will be provided.

People in the News

Hospitalized this past Month

David Ritthaler at HCMC and now at Texas Terrace Care Center, 7900 W. 28th St., St. Louis Park, MN 55426

Herman Rebeschke at Abbott NW and now at home
Grace Neumann at Fairview Southdale, at Martin Luther Manor, and now at home

Marcille Groenke at Fairview Southdale and now at home

March Shield of Faith Deadline- February 21

Girl Scout Cookies

It's that time of year again. Girl Scout cookies are now on sale. Lily Jones and Tatiana Bonilla are Girl Scouts, Natasha Bonilla is a Brownie and Lily Jugasek is a Daisy. Cookies are \$3.50/box again this year. Thank You for your support to our young ladies.

Trustees Meeting-1/4/10

Present: Roger Schmidt, David Rudd, Grace and Mel Neumann

Chaired by, Devotions: Grace Neumann

Discussion Items: Janitor's retirement date, elevator phone has been replaced (thanks to those who did the work), light in the sanctuary will be replaced, some posts in lower level need to be repaired, portable walls and shelves on stage need to be removed, pine tree trimming or removing, bushes on west side of church will be removed, walk way on north side needs attention (Trustees with Alain's help are doing their best to keep it passable), thanks to the gentlemen from Nokomis Square who keeps the sidewalk and the walkway from the street in front of the church cleared with his tractor.

Stewardship Meeting-1/6/10

Present: Pastor Marge, Merrie, Warren, and Joyce
Opening Devotions (from Proverbs) and Prayer: Pastor
Discussion items: attendance graph comparing monthly average attendance with 2008 and 2009, graph on individual giving, deficit for 2009 is \$107, combined deficit (2008 & 2009) is \$7,157, so far no contingency funds have been used. The Board recommends to use contingency funds to pay deficit. In 2009 \$605 was given to MN South for District/Synod work. Pastor is working on a report which will convey where we are and our goals for the future. A new member packet and a recommitment packet for all members and a visitor letter will be prepared by Pastor. The few boxes of envelopes left in the mailboxes will be mailed; weekly news of Faith will be placed in the mailboxes of regular attendees who are not present at a service.

Outreach Meeting – 1/6/2010

Present: Tom Odegard, Bea Whitehouse, Pastor Middaugh, Frances Lanikai, Marsha Thompson
Chaired by: Marsha Recorded by: Frances
Opening Devotions: Bea Whitehouse
Discussion Items: December 2009 Gifts of Love given to families in need; donated by members of Faith; upcoming events: youth event in February, 2010, summer outdoor event, Fat Lorenzo Supper, and fall event including Lion's Gate; looking into mission projects to serve in the community.

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Attendance

December 24 – 44
December 25 – cancelled due to weather
December 27 – 40
January 3 – 47
January 10 – 70
January 17 – 83 Communed – 62



February Birthdays

1 – Caleb Rollins
10 – Louise Rardin
18 – Dorothy Gerth
19 – Matthew Ketcher
24 – Ruby Tennison
28 – Ed Hawkinson

January/ February Fellowships

January 24

Betty Deeds
*Don and Sharon Christensen

January 31

Outreach

February 7

Coffee Fellowship

February 14

Gunnar and Oksana Bruestle and family
Garrett and Jennifer Bruestle and family
Glenn Bruestle
Grayson Bruestle

February 21

12:2 Student Ministries Fundraiser

February 28

Jerry and Jeanne Bednarz
*Jeff and Faith Alt
Vicki Bonilla

“Partners with Christ”

Here is how you can partner more with Christ in your life. God has given us the task of reconciling people to Him. “For God was in Christ, reconciling the world to Himself, no longer counting people’s sin against them.” This is His wonderful message He has given us

to tell others. “We are Christ’s ambassadors, and God is using us to speak to you.” We urge you, as though Christ Himself were pleading with you. “Be reconciled to God.” 2 Corinthians 5:19-20.

The Apostle Paul in these words gives us a picture of our gracious God and very important service we are to provide as ambassadors for Christ. We are on a mission with divine authority and power to tell people about the saving love of Jesus. You can be a delivery agent for God.

You must be careful to represent Christ correctly, adequately and effectively. Our Lord Jesus assures us as we make known the message of redemption in Him to people, “You will receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you, and you will tell people everywhere.” Acts 1:8.

Our message is to tell what God has done in Christ to save people from their sins. “Christ was tempted in all points as we are, yet without sin,” Hebrews 4:15. God placed our sins on the sinless Savior Christ, who suffered, was crucified and died for the sins of all. “For all have sinned and fall short of God’s glorious standard; yet God in His grace and kindness declares us not guilty. We are made right with God when we believe that Jesus shed His blood, sacrificing His life for us.” Romans 3:23-25.

This is our conviction, our challenge, opportunity and responsibility as partners with Christ. **SPARKS**

Notice

AARP Tax-Aide will not operate a tax preparation site at Faith Ev. Lutheran Church, during the 2009 income tax filing season. They will continue to operate other sites in the south Minneapolis area: Pillsbury House, 3501 Chicago Av S, will be open on Tuesday and Thursday mornings from 9:00 am – 12 Noon. You can call (612) 874-0708 to make an appointment.

Another site is Holy Trinity Lutheran Church, 2730 E. 31st Street, which is open on Monday and Tuesday mornings from 11:00 am – 2:30 pm. This site is a first-come, first served basis.

Both sites provide electronic filing with no cost to client and will be open the first week in February 2010 thru April 15, 2010.

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OPEN HOUSE



South Campus (K-6th Grade)

Sunday, January 31, 2010

2:00 pm – 4:00 pm

Thursday, February 11, 2010

6:30 pm – 8:30 pm

927 E. Old Shakopee Road
Bloomington, MN 55420

North Campus (7th-12th Grade)

Sunday, January 31, 2010

2:00 pm – 4:00 pm

Thursday, February 11, 2010

6:30 pm – 8:30 pm

6541 16th Av. South
Richfield, MN 55423

Come and discover...

our **MISSION** to build a community where students, teachers, and parents grow in their relationship with their Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ

our **VISION** to equip each student with the tools needed to begin the discovery of how he or she can make a difference in the world

our **PHILOSOPHY** to offer a balance of spiritual, academic, social and co-curricular education in an endeavor to help each student to develop to his or her fullest potential

www.LionsGateK12.org



Lion's Gate Christian Academy is a Recognized Service Organization of the Lutheran Church – Missouri Synod

HAITI RELIEF

The situation in Haiti following the massive earthquake is truly dire in a way that most of us cannot imagine. While we do not always understand why these things happen, the response of God's people is always to give mercifully and pray fervently.

HOW YOU CAN HELP?

PRAY - For all those who have lost family members or loved ones, for the relief effort, for all those traveling to Haiti to help.

DONATE - More than anything else the relief effort needs monetary gifts. 1 great option for giving is listed below.

VOLUNTEER - "Feed My Starving Children" has several local sites where you can volunteer to help with food-packing.

Donate

Thrivent is launching a national \$3 million "Helping Haiti" effort. They will contribute \$1, up to \$1 million, for every \$2 in donations that members make by March 31 to the following:

Lutheran World Relief
LCMS World Relief/Human Care

To donate go to Thrivent.com/helpinghaiti or call 1-800-236-3736 between 7 am and 6 pm Monday thru Friday. When prompted say "directory" and enter extension 83003.

Volunteer

"Feed My Starving Children" has already disturbed thousands of meals to the people of Haiti. Many more are needed though. Please call the sites to sign up for any shift:

- Coon Rapids, MN: 763.504.3775
- Eagan, MN: 651.379.3775
- Chanhassen, MN: 952.937.2329

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Envy is a waste of time; we already have all we need.

Recycle Greeting Cards

What do you do with all those greeting cards you receive? Don't throw them away; recycle them. Bring them to the church office so they can be recycled and then reused.

Recycle Stamps

Please save your cancelled stamps from correspondence you receive. Put them in Norm and Marion Ogdahl's mailbox. They receive some money and return it to the church.

Valentine's Dinner

Make plans now to attend the Valentine's Dinner on Saturday, February 13, 2010, beginning at 6 pm. The dinner is sponsored by 12:2 Student Ministries and will feature an Italian 3-course dinner for only \$10 per person. Bring a date or come alone and help our youth raise money for their trip to New Orleans this coming summer. If you are unable to attend, perhaps you would consider giving a donation. Call the church office to reserve your tickets or buy them at the door. Tickets will be available beginning next Sunday.

Memorials and Special Gifts

Thanks for the following donations to Memorials and Special Gifts:

Creative Puns for "Educated Minds"

Remember that silence is sometimes the best answer.

Devotional Material

You can also recycle your used devotional material. There is a box in the lower level of the church to receive the material.

Donate Glasses

Used eye glasses are given to the Lion's Club to be reused. There is a marked box on the table downstairs to put them in.

Remember that silence is sometimes the best answer.

Don't Take Life Too Seriously

- Honk if you love peace and quiet.

We, God's people, empowered by the Holy Spirit, are working together to reach out and make disciples of Jesus Christ.

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- He who laughs last, thinks slowest
- A day without sunshine is like night
- On the other hand, you have different fingers
- I just got lost in thought; it wasn't familiar territory.