

# October Faith Echo

## GREETINGS

*From the Pastor*

“Be careful then how you live, not as unwise people but as wise, making the most of the time, because the days are evil.” Mark 5:15-16

Much has been argued and debated recently about the ELCA’s vote to find ways to hold homosexual people accountable in committed lifelong relationships and to allow the ordination of those who would like to be in such a relationship.

If you wish to read a biblical defense of this issue, I invite you to read Rev. Eric Wolf’s article posted on the bulletin board, or go to the ELCA.org website. If you wish to discuss the issue further with me, I will be happy to do so.

It appears to me, knowing what I do of human nature, that we have had rostered leaders who have led homosexual lifestyles in the past, whether we knew it or not. Now one’s sexual preference is open to public discussion. I believe this decision by our denomination offers us the opportunity to be honest about it.

As our congregation considers the call process, I believe that what matters most to us is this: A call committee can ask a candidate any and all questions, even concerning their sexual preferences. The congregation then can vote to extend or refuse a call accordingly.

In the ELCA, the authority to call or refuse their rostered candidates is vested in the congregation.

The wisdom of God that Mark talks about is the wisdom of God that is often different from the wisdom that comes from humanity, from us. St. Paul tells us in Romans 3:23: “For all have sinned and fallen short of the glory of God.” Psalm 130 states, “If you, O Lord, kept a record of sins, who could stand?” The one equality all people share is that we stand sinful in the presence of God, seeking forgiveness and new life in Jesus Christ: “For God sent not his son into the world to condemn the world, but that the world through him might be saved.” John 3:17

Difficult days such as these call for a renewal of faith in the power of God to face the issues before us: depression, financial difficulties, foreclosures, job losses, yes,

even God's grace extended to people we regard as different from us. God casts a wide net to call us all his children and offer us his love in Christ Jesus. Come and worship together often, strengthen your faith for these difficult days.

*Rev. David B. Stacy, interim Pastor*

## **A SYNOPSIS OF COUNCIL MINUTES**

**AUGUST 2009**

Pr. Stacy proposed an Executive Summary Report to give the congregation a snapshot of the current financial state of the church. The pastor will be out from 8/25 until 9/12. Prs. Hendel, Henderschott, and Bliese will help out.

Jo Anne Borkert will attend Church Windows software training. Motion to change envelopes for straight giving with a separate designated funds envelop. Passed Motion to cancel credit card as it has annual fee. Passed

## **WALK WITH JESUS**

A big thank you goes to Adrianna Fjelsted and her helpers for making the *Walk with Jesus* posters that you see around the church buildings.

## **WITHIN THE FOLD**

### **ALTAR GUILD**

Julie Yennerell

### **GREETERS**

9:30am

10/04	Nancy Eng, Louise Walters
10/11	Richard and Rosemary Hensley
10/18	Doug Patterson, Damen Shelor
10/25	Bob and Lucille Keck

## **USHERS**

9:30am

10/04 Norm & April Erickson  
Frances Vandivier, August Maassmann  
10/11 Erickson, Vandivier, Maassmann  
10/18 Bob & Doris Bollenbach  
August Maassmann, Melba Brewer  
10/26 Bollenbach, Maassmann, Brewer

## **ACOLYTES**

9:30am

10/04 Lea & Katie Harvey  
10/11 Olivia Warner/Patterson  
10/18 Katie Harvey  
10/25 Lea Harvey & Olivia Warner-Patterson

## **READERS**

9:30am

10/04 Lynn Beck  
10/11 Lynn beck  
10/18 Mark brown  
10/25 Mark Brown

## **DRIVERS SCHEDULE**

10/04 Will Rogers  
10/11 John Kintz  
10/18 Open  
10/26 Damon Shelor

## **FLOWERS ON THE ALTAR**

10/11 Leanore King  
10/25 Brenda Scheneman

## LAWN MOWING

The congregation voted to cancel the lawn service, so we all must pick up the challenge to keep the lawn trimmed weekly. Call the office when you are able to help—369-6177.

### *Happy Birthday and God's Blessing to:*

Jo Anne Borkert	10/02
Ruth Welk	10/03
Pat Grotsky	10/05
Dorothy Morehead	10/07
Carol Carpenter	10/07
Dolores Sheppard	10/09
Thoran Fjelsted	10/10
Betty Underhill	10/11
Lisa Peters	10/12
Diane Brownrigg	10/13
Frances Goehle	10/17
Kelli DeVore	10/19
Mary Grace Getz	10/19
Doug Patterson	10/20
Norm Erickson	10/20
Betty Richards	10/21
Patricia Shapter	10/21
Loretta Menuéz	10/21
Tammy Waigand	10/21
Gerald Arthur	10/22
Melba Brewer	10/24
Doug Conwell	10/24
Melinda Pensinger	10/24
Phil Koenig	10/26
Melissa West	10/26
Christina Fewox	10/29
Judy Bawor	10/31

***Happy Anniversary and God's Blessing to:***

Bob & Doris Bollenbach	10/06
Randy & Donna Layman	10/06
Mike & Sherri Schmidt	10/08
Tom & Phyllis Vonderhaar	10/12
Bill & Vicki Hawkins	10/14
Dick & Rosemary Hensley	10/21
Don & Rose Poidevin	10/22

The Lord bless you and keep you.....Num. 6:24

**FAITH** FAMILY MEMBERS IN THE MILITARY

**LCPL Logan Raymond, LCPL Hannah Frank, LCPL Trevor Frank,**  
Pendleton MB, California

**Airman Jennifer Iglesias,** Air Force Base , AZ

**Senior Airman Kenny Brooks,** US Air Force, Davis/Mothan AFB, AZ

**Petty Officer Tim Fjelsted,** US Navy Reserves

**Specialist 4 Nick Schmidt,** Denver, CO

**Lance Corporal Tyler Blum,** US Marine Corp, Iraq

**Sergeant Robert Waigand,** US Army, Ft. Benning, GA

**SA David Pykal,** San Diego

**LEHIGH COMMUNITY BAND CONCERTS**

The Lehigh Community Band will give concerts on the third Sunday afternoon of each month through April in our Sweatlock Fellowship Hall. Plan on attending these great concerts.

## WELCA NEWS

The Fall Luncheon/Elections will be held October 3, 2009 at 12 Noon in Whisnant Hall. Bring your favorite dish to share.

We are once again knitting/crocheting hats for the *Save The Children* organization. If you would like to help, and need the pattern, please see Joan Sozzi. Last year, we sent 79 hats. Let's top that this year. Thanks to all who have participated and to those who will help this year.

The Sanctuary Choir, the Praise Band and singing group, the Handbell Choir and the Jr. Handbells have begun for the year, **and you are welcome to join.**

The Food Pantry is in **need of powdered milk and cans of fruit.** All will be gratefully received. The Pantry is open on Wednesday mornings. If you would like to help distribute food, call our office at 369-6177.

### MINISTRY OF THE WORD

Rev. David Stacy, Interim Pastor (7/05/09—)

### DIRECTOR OF MUSIC

J. L. Kreger

### OFFICE STAFF

J. L. Kreger, Administrative Assistant

Jo Anne Borkert, Melinda Pensinger, Financial Secretaries

### *Volunteers for Filing and Reception IN OUR OFFICE*

Dorothy Nelson, Marguerite Kull, Mariam Snider,

Doris Brown, Mary Jane McArthur, Toria Via, Lois Duff,

Nancy Eng, Frances Vandivier & Audrey Downey

Linda Carter. webmaster

## CONGREGATION COUNCIL

John Kintz, President

Doug Patterson, Vice President

Richard Peters, Secretary

Charles DiFelice, Treasurer

Len Barney, Gary DeVore

Barbara Lindroth, Ralph McDonald

Ron Shively, Jeanette Vesper

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Email: [FaihtLutheran@embarqmail.com](mailto:FaihtLutheran@embarqmail.com)

Phone: 239)369-6177

Fax: 239)369-3411

## CHURCH COMMITTEES

### CHRISTIAN EDUCATION

Lisa Peters, *Liaison*

### EVANGELISM

Bob Wolfe, Marguerite Kull, *Barbara Lindroth, Liaison*

### FINANCE

Gary DeVore, Betty Richards, Jo Anne Borkert, Melinda Pensinger, Jerry Emmel, Charles DiFelice, *Liaison*

### LEARNING VILLAGE

Lisa Peters-Director, Barry Moll-President, Don Poidevin-Secretary, Sarah Polter, Bonnie Kintz, Jennifer Glasser, Kelli DeVore, Pr. David Stacy, *Jeanette Vesper, Liaison*

## PROPERTY

Larry Vandivier, Gary Lohr, Damon Shelor, Laura Barney, Connie Wattenmaker, Walter Dierks, *Ron Shively & Len Barney, Liaisons*

## SOCIAL MINISTRY

Barbara Emery, Sheila Rogers, *Richard Peters, Liaison*

## STEWARDSHIP

*Charlie DiFelice, Liaison*

## WORSHIP & MUSIC

Jeanette, Vesper, Frances Vandivier, Lynn Beck, Jim Kreger, Barb Lindroth, Jerry Emmel, *Ralph McDonald, Liaison*

## YOUTH/ORGANIZATIONS

Open, *Liaison*