

**FAITH** EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH  
705 LEE LAND HEIGHTS BOULEVARD EAST  
LEHIGH ACRES, FL 33936-6723

Non-Profit Org.  
U. S Postage  
PAID  
Lehigh Acres, FL.  
Permit No. 8902

Phone: 239-369-6177

**MARCH**                    **FORWARD**  
**2010**                    **IN**  
                                  **FAITH**

**OUR MISSION STATEMENT**  
GOD'S PEOPLE UNIFIED IN CHRIST  
AND ENERGIZED BY THE HOLY  
SPIRIT, TO LEARN, GIVE AND SERVE

∞ ∞ ∞ **FAITH ECHO** ∞ ∞ ∞

MARCH 2010

## ***GREETINGS***

We all are familiar with the “gimme letters” we receive in the mail. We are subject to the “guilties” if we don’t give something to some of these good causes. In fact, we may give a few dollars out of guilt from time to time, and may not know how much this adds up to over time.

While there are websites that profile different organization and their effectiveness, we save time by not looking them up and hope that our gifts are used wisely. My feeling is that giving from guilt is not very productive. We cannot prove that it is effective.

Giving out of gratitude is a different approach. Giving out of gratitude focuses on the fact that we have been blessed in many ways. Giving out of gratitude points out that we are a people that need to give! Yes, we need to give. Whether it is viewed as “giving back something,” “Thanksgiving to God”, or simply an “attitude of gratitude”, we have a need to give.

Giving does not always mean money. Giving can include time donated to your Church, your homeowners Association, Girl Scouts or the United Way. You have acquired skills over the years that benefit these organizations. Your time and your skills are important contributions.

Giving does not always mean giving large amounts. A modest gift, given consistently, builds over time. New disaster relief organizations point out that the initial burst of giving pays to set up the administrative structure leaving little left over for the actual relief work which may continue for years. Gifts to established relief organizations such as Lutheran World Relief, which has an established administrative structure and years of experience, may be more effective.

Giving in smaller amounts, but giving consistently levels out the revenue stream. Most banks offer monthly on-line payment to customers. This continuous revenue stream helps organizations, such as your church, to establish a budget and plan their operations more effectively.

Planning makes your giving intentional. It protects us from “compassion fatigue” How much to give? That is for you to decide. Ten percent is the traditional tithe. But some give more than that as

they are able. At the end of the day, it is more important to give out of a loving heart than a guilty conscience.

*Pastor Stacy*

## **ANNUAL MEETING RECAP FOR JANUARY**

**Approval of Minutes 01/25/2009:** Motion to accept minutes by Lorraine Schultz, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Betty Richardson. Motioned carried

**Election report of Nominating Committee:** Congregation reviewed page 18 of annual report for nominations listed. No nominations from the floor were presented. Lorraine motioned to close nominations, 2<sup>nd</sup> by unnamed., Motioned Carried.

**Approval of Annual Reports:** Motioned by Linda Patterson, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Jim Kreger. Motion carried

**Old Business:** Brought from the floor "Show of hands poll for communion every week or every other week" Congregation polled in 2 -1 favor of every other week communion.

**New Business:** Approval of Budget Motion LaVon Koenig, 2<sup>nd</sup> Jerry Emmel.

**Discussion:** Charles Emery: Why is there a decrease in the reserves from the original budget? *Increases in electric bills, utilities, and possible hook up to city water were not taken into account appropriately with the previous budget.*

Tom Nelson: What is the status of the lawsuit and why is there no budget item for it? *The lawsuit was served a continuance till this year from its December trial date. There is no line item for it because it is an unbudgeted expense. An expense that is not recurring or needed for specific committees.*

Pastor David Stacey: On the Pastor's Report. Explanation of services an interim Pastor provides. When can we call a full time pastor? *When we can afford one. We must maintain focus on stewardship per the Cargill report. The Stewardship Committee and Council have been running the "Walk with Jesus" campaign. It consists of 4 events per year, though we have chosen only 3.*

Motioned Carried, Budget approved.

**Election of New Council Members:** Motion to accept - Jim Kreger, 2<sup>nd</sup> Jerry Emmel. Motion Carried.

**Election Of Nominating Committee for 2010:** Barry Moll and Lisa Peters Volunteered for duty.

**Election of Synod Assembly Representatives (Apr 31 – May 3):** Council will seek volunteers and assign representatives.

## **CHURCH COMMITTEES**

### **CHRISTIAN EDUCATION**

Lisa Peters, Dee Waigand, Suzanne Mojta, Melissa Welsh, *Liaison—Norm Erickson*

### **EVANGELISM**

Bob Wolfe, *Liaison—Len Barney*

### **FINANCE**

Gary DeVore, Betty Richards, Jo Anne Borkert, Jerry Emmel, Pr. Stacy, *Liaison—Charles DiFelice*

### **LEARNING VILLAGE**

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

### **PROPERTY**

Larry Vandivier, Gary Lohr, Damon Shelor, Laura Barney, Connie Wattenmaker, Walter Dierks, *Liaison—John Kintz*

### **SOCIAL MINISTRY**

Barbara Emery, Sheila Rogers, Jim Kreger, Mark Brown, LaVon Koenig, *Liaison—Richard Peters*

### **STEWARDSHIP**

Lorraine Schultz, Charles Emery, Tom Nelson, Hank Hendel, *Liaison—Don Poidevin*

### **WORSHIP & MUSIC**

Jeanette Vesper (Altar Guild), Marguerite Kull (Greeters), Lynn Beck (Readers), Jim Kreger (Music), Bob Wolfe (Communion Assistants), Jerry Emmel (Music), Melissa Welsh (Acolytes), Pr. Stacy, *Liaison—Merrilyn Penegor*

### **YOUTH/ORGANIZATIONS**

Barbara Emery, Charles Emery, *Liaison—Gary DeVore*

## MINISTRY OF THE WORD

Rev. David Stacy, Interim Pastor

## DIRECTOR OF MUSIC

J. L. Kreger

## OFFICE STAFF

J. L. Kreger, *Administrative Assistant*

Jo Anne Borkert, *Financial Secretary*

Linda Carter, *Webmaster*

## *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  
Laura Barney (sub.), Diane Bernatz-Memorials

## CONGREGATION COUNCIL

President, Douglas Patterson

Vice President, Donald Poidevin

Secretary, Richard Peters

Treasurer, Charles DiFelice

Len Barney, Gary DeVore, Norm Erickson

John Kintz, Phil Koenig, Merrilyn Penegor

Ron Shively, Pastor David Stacy

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## TREASURER'S REPORT

January 2010

	MONTHLY	YEAR TO DATE
INCOME	\$49,647	
EXPENSE	\$33,282	
<b>NET</b>	<b>\$16,365</b>	

## WITHIN THE FOLD

## BAPTISMS

Sophia Fleitas and Brianna Vegliante 02/21/2010

## ALTAR GUILD

Jeanette Vesper and Jeanne Giddens

## GREETERS

03/07 Dean & Ferne Warner

03/14 Larry & Brenda Scheneman

03/21 Janice Crum & Gloria Heidelberg

03/28 Janice Crum & Gloria Heidelberg

## USHERS

03/03 Ralph McDonald, Marguerite Kull, Charles  
Richardson, Janice Crum

03/07 Dick & Edie Lapish, Gary Lohr, Joan Sozzi

03/10 Norm & April Erickson, Frances Vandivier

03/14 Dick & Edie Lapish, Gary Lohr, Joan Sozzi

03/17 Norm & April Erickson

03/21 Doug Patterson, Bob & Doris Bollenbach,  
Nancy Eng

03-24 OPEN

03/28 Doug Patterson, Chuck & Barb Emery,  
Nancy Eng

03/31 OPEN

## ACOLYTES

03/07 Olivia Patterson & Natalie Peters  
03/14 Nolan Jerriey & Samuel Ballenger  
03/21 Emma & Abby Sokhanvari  
03/28 Lea & Katie Harvey

## READERS

03/07 LaVon Koenig  
03/14 La Von Koenig  
03/21 Linda Patterson  
03/28 Linda Patterson

## DRIVERS SCHEDULE

03/07 Will Rogers  
03/14 Damon Shelor  
03/21 Tom Hansen  
03/28 Richard Peters

## LAWN MOWING AND TRIMMING

The lawn will be mowed about every 10 days through the Spring. We will need folks to come and bring weed-eaters to do trimming, etc. Call the office when you are able to help—369-6177.

## BIRTHDAYS AND ANNIVERSARIES

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

Debra Gobus	03/01
Richard Zander	03/03
Kenneth Brooks	03/04
Rachel Dahlke	03/04
Betty Kelley	03/05
Jean Hertzner	03/05
Carol Frantz	03/05
Randy Layman	03/05
Benita Gibbons	03/05
Jeanne Giddens	03/09
Elizabeth Larsen	03/10

Leanore King	03/12
Jenna Borkert	03/12
Maria Biedermann	03/13
Claudia Doolittle	03/14
Margaret Williams	03/16
Lois Duff	03/17
Dierdre Waigand	03/18
Jeremy Smith	03/18
Joseph Sheppard	03/20
Virginia Wollerman	03/20
Leonard Barney	03/20
Sheila Rogers	03/23
Donald Poidevin	03/26
Kayla Rogers	03/28
Kerstin Harvey	03/30
Brian Natoli	03/30
Lorraine Schultz	03/31

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

Don & Becky Olney	03/03
Robert & Norma Lovejoy	03/06
James & Diane Brownrigg	03/06
Don & Ann McDowell	03/17
Kenneth & Jessica Pickles	03/19

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

## YOUNG ADULT GROUP

Our newly formed Young Adult Group will meet on Sunday, March 21, @ 3pm in Whisnant Hall. Babysitting will be provided in our Nursery in Sweatlock Fellowship Hall. This group is open to anyone from the age of 18—35 or so, married or single, with or without children.