

# Faith Life

Faith Lutheran Church

September/October 2009

## Exciting Fall Programming and Events

**It's Time...**

### **Fall Education Programs Begin!**

**Registration Has Begun!**  
**Faith Night Starts: September 16**  
**Education Hour Starts: September 20**

Music, Youth, and Children Ministry directors have been working hard to plan some great educational opportunities for Faith's students. We have combined our registration forms, so that you will be able to sign up all of your children on one form, for all classes and choirs offered Sunday mornings and Wednesday evenings. You should have received those registrations in your inbox mid-August. If you have not received a registration via email, please call the church office so that Kala can get a form to you. There will also be forms available in the Commons. You can turn in registrations in the church office or at the K.I.C.K. registration table on Sunday mornings. Please sign up to help. There are over thirty volunteer positions for Wednesday nights and Sunday mornings. We count on our volunteers for quality ministry programming and leadership. Please prayerfully consider how you may give of your time to share God with the children of Faith Lutheran Church.

#### ***Some things to remember:***

- ➔ There are two education hours on Sunday morning: 8:45 and 10:00 a.m. Select one time.
- ➔ We are taking registrations on a first-come, first-served basis for Sunday morning education hour slots. We must keep the class sizes even between the two time slots to avoid overcrowding.
- ➔ If you sign up your children for a Wednesday night choir, they will need to sign up for the 8:45 a.m. education hour. Student choirs will, on occasion, lead the 10:00 a.m. worship services.
- ➔ For K.I.C.K., you will get an email confirmation that your registration has been processed and what education hour to attend.
- ➔ Construction will be finished soon — but we may have to be creative with our space on Wednesday, September 16, and Sunday, September 20 — so watch for posted signs on locations of classes.

**It's Time...to Celebrate!**

F·A·I·T·H



**Clear your calendar for the weekend of October 3rd and 4th for some very special celebrations at Faith!**

In the fall of 1984, Faith Lutheran Church was born - a merger of Advent Lutheran and Messiah Lutheran churches. Over 50 members of Advent and Messiah are still with us as charter members of Faith. We will commemorate "25 Years of Serving Faithfully" with special worship service components and a congregation-wide event.

Joyfully, we will be able to dedicate our building addition on the same weekend! After many months and years of planning, gifts of treasure, service and hard work, this new education space will be ready for use. Construction work is scheduled to be complete September 21 and the necessary occupancy permits will be obtained immediately upon this completion. Look for a ribbon-cutting and classroom open house!

Please watch *Faith Weekly* and the website for more information about the celebrations.

# Children and Family Ministry



*Mission Statement: Provide a dynamic, interactive experience to support our children's journey toward a mature Christian faith.*

## New Curriculum!

Last Spring a committee was formed to create a survey for our K.I.C.K. teachers and shepherds. They were looking for feedback on what was working and what might need improvement in our current K.I.C.K. curriculum. The greatest need discerned was to have a Bible-focused curriculum. Taking the wonderful feedback from the surveys, ELCA lists of scripture for elementary students, and my love of writing lesson plans, we have a new curriculum for the 2009-10 school year! Every lesson is read from the Bible, and has an age-appropriate, grade-level activity written out so that a volunteer can easily teach a lesson to their class. Another change is that 5th grade has been added to Children and Family Ministry this year in hopes to best meet the developmental needs of fifth graders. The grade level division matches the majority of the area metro schools' elementary to junior high transitions. Please come to the K.I.C.K. Orientation on August 30 at 11:00 a.m. and learn more about what your children will learn in K.I.C.K.

## September 20 — K.I.C.K. Begins!

Wooo-hooo! School has started and now it's time for K.I.C.K.! I am so excited to work with all the wonderful families at Faith Lutheran Church. The first couple of Sundays will most likely be held in St. Michael's Hall until we get the green light from the city to be in the rooms. I will try and send out emails to keep you updated on where we will be meeting for grades 1st - 5th grades as the dates get closer. Three year olds through Kindergarten will have their rooms and will not move when the new rooms open.

—Melinda Littler  
*Director, Children and Family Ministry*

## 2nd Graders—Up with the Bible Class

A class for all 2nd grade students and their families will meet Wednesday, September 9, at 6:30 p.m. in St. Michael's Hall. Together we will learn about God's living Word. Each child will receive their student Bible. Please RSVP to [kalazanoni@faithlc.org](mailto:kalazanoni@faithlc.org) by September 8.

## 3-Year-Old K.I.C.K. Orientation

It is time to get your "Big Kid" Bibles on Sunday, September 13, at 11:00 a.m. in St. Michael's Hall. We will decorate book bags and then present a Bible to each child. After the presentation, we will go downstairs and visit the K.I.C.K. classroom for the three-

year-olds. If you feel your child is not ready to attend three-year-old K.I.C.K. class this fall, you may leave after the Bible presentation.

## 4-Year-Old through 5th Grade K.I.C.K. Orientation

*Do you want to know what is going to be taught this year for K.I.C.K.? Do you want to know how your child is going to be taught? Would you like to know all the exciting family opportunities you and your family can be a part of during the education year?*

If you answered yes to any of these questions, then mark August 30, 11:00 a.m., on your calendar. We will meet in St. Michael's Hall. Tables will be set up with coloring pages and activities for your children to work on while you listen to a thirty-minute presentation on what your child will be taught this year and how the program will develop over the course of the year.

## September 16 Faith Night Starts

### *Classes offered:*

**Foundations of Faith** is an hour-long class offered to PreK- K students on Wednesday nights. They will focus on learning about the fruits of the spirit. They will also get a chance to play games, crafts and learn fun songs during their time together.

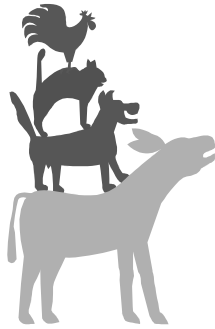
**Exploring Your Strengths (XOS)** is an hour-long class offered to 1st -2nd grade students on Wednesday nights. Students will focus on learning about the special gifts that each one of us has been blessed with in our lives. They will learn how they can use those special gifts to serve other in their daily life and here at church.

**New this Year: Attitudes Working on Beatitudes** is an hour-long class offered to 3rd and 4th grade students on Wednesday nights. Students will spend the first two classes creating puppets that are in their personal image. They will then study the Beatitudes and write out a puppet play showing how they can apply each of the Beatitudes in their daily lives. There will be lots of teamwork in creating these wonderful Beatitude puppet scripts.

**New this Year: Peers** class is an hour-long class offered for 5th and 6th grade students on Wednesday nights. However, due to space and the completion of the new rooms, this class will NOT start until

Wednesday, October 7. The Peers class will focus on how God wants us to develop and maintain healthy friendships in a Godly manner. We will do role play and skits just to practice what we have learned. We will look at Old Testament books like Proverbs, as well as New Testament scripture like Ephesians to learn how God wants us to handle our peers and create relationships.

### Blessing of the Animals



Gather up those family pets in their little carriers, fish bowls and leashes and bring them to church for the Blessing of the Animals on Sunday, October 18! We will not have music the first 20 minutes of K.I.C.K., so that all can come to the Commons with their pets for the blessing. Don't worry if your child does not have a pet to bring; have them grab a favorite stuffed animal.

After the blessing, your child will return to their classroom for their K.I.C.K. lesson for the day.

### Halloween Party

We will be hosting a Halloween Party for our birth to 6-year-old age group and their families. The party will be Sunday, October 25, at 4:00 p.m. There will be stories, games, pictures, face painting and a costume

parade! Immediately following our party, the elementary and jr. high kids will host "Trunk or Treat" in the church parking lot. Don't forget to wear your costumes!

### Communion Orientation

Pastor Dave and Melinda will be offering a communion orientation class on Thursdays, October 1, and 8, from 6:00 to 7:00 p.m. and October 15, 6:00 to 7:30 p.m., in St. Michael's Hall. Attendance on all three nights is recommended. Typically students in 1st grade start showing an interest in communion, but it is up to each family when they feel their child is ready for the class. On the last night we will bake bread together, and practice the act of the sacraments. If your child would like their first communion to be the following Sunday after the last class, please email Kala at [kalazanoni@faithlc.org](mailto:kalazanoni@faithlc.org) to let her know the date and service your child will be receiving first communion. Kala will put the child's name in that Sunday's bulletin to be recognized by the Pastor during service.

## Faith 411

### *What's the story on...? What's up with...?*

Beginning with the next bi-monthly newsletter, we'll be offering Faith members a chance to get those burning little questions answered! This will be a forum to finally ask what you (or your kids) have been wondering about Faith or *faith* but didn't know where to find out.

We're imagining this as a *Q & A* format where you supply the *Q's*.....and I'll hunt down the *A's*. Here are some of the things I'd personally like to know:

*What kind of wine is served at communion?  
What's the name of the organ's secret bird?*

*How old do you have to be to take communion?*

*How long does it take a pastor to memorize a sermon?*

*Will the new parts of the building have special names, like: Saint Somebody Hall?... Westside Storyrooms?... Bob?*

Please tell us what *you* want to know. Send your questions to [hope.johnson@mchsi.com](mailto:hope.johnson@mchsi.com) or drop off a note with Kala or Miranda in the church office. Happy questioning!

**Hope Johnson**  
*Faith's Freelance Reporter*

# Youth Ministry

*Mission Statement: To BUILD personal FAITH and responsibility  
To GROW in our experience of community and commitment  
To EQUIP families and youth in the mission and ministry of Jesus Christ*



## Confirmation: Mark Your Calendars

- Confirmation Orientation will be on Wednesday, September 9, from 6:15 to 7:15 p.m. in the sanctuary. Please be sure to be there and to bring your calendars!
- Confirmation Classes begin Wednesday, September 16.
- The 7th grade required Confirmation Retreat will be September 25-26.
- The 8th grade required Confirmation Retreat will be October 9-10.
- The 9th grade required Confirmation Retreat will be December 4-5.

## 7th Grade Confirmation Retreat

The 7th grade confirmation class will have their confirmation retreat on Friday, September 25 and Saturday, September 26. We will depart from church Friday at 6:00 p.m. and return at 4:00 p.m. on Saturday. Parents are needed to chaperone and drive. Please contact Angie at [angielarson@faithlc.org](mailto:angielarson@faithlc.org).

## Confirmation Small Group Guide Training

Guide training night will be Wednesday, September 2, from 6:15 to 7:45 p.m. at the Gathering House. Come and connect with other guides, look over this year's curriculum and hear updates on the confirmation program.

## Senior High K.I.C.K.ball and Sand Volleyball

Join the senior high youth group as they play "K.I.C.K.ball" and sand volleyball on Saturday, September 12, at Campbell Park in Clive. We will meet from 7:00 to 8:30 p.m. No athletic ability needed, just come and have fun!

## Sunday Education Opportunities

*6th and 7th grade Education Hour:* Meet with Junior High Ministry Coordinator Melissa Dale at either 8:45 or 10:00 a.m. to discuss hot topics and current events. This Bible Study will help you see that what you learn on Sunday morning will affect how you live the rest of the week. Regular parent/youth caring conversations will occur to open up dialogue between youth and their parents. Dates for the caring conversations for 2009-10 are: October 4, November 8, January 24, March 7, and April 25. Students are asked to register for a time, but may switch attendance hours to accommodate changing family schedules.

*8th and 9th grade Education Hour:* Meet with Director of Youth and Family Ministry Angie Larson at either 8:45 or 10:00 a.m. to discuss hot topics and current events. This Bible Study will help you see that what you learn on Sunday morning will affect how you live the rest of the week. Regular parent/youth caring conversations will occur to open up dialogue between youth and their parents. Dates for the caring conversations for 2009-10 are: October 4, November 8, January 24, March 7, and April 25. Students are asked to register for a time, but may switch attendance hours to accommodate changing family schedules.

*10th – 12th grade Sunday Morning Bible Study:* Meet with Drake student Dan Behrens to dig deeper into the Word through text study, conversation, and life application. Sr. high Bible study meets at the Gathering House at both 8:45 and 10:00 a.m.

## Wednesday Education Opportunities

*Confirmation:* Confirmation classes are available for anyone 7th through 9th grade. Classes are from 6:15 to 7:45 p.m. Wednesdays during Faith Night. Classes cover the Old Testament, New Testament, and Small Catechism. Confirmation fee of \$50 covers materials and retreats.

*Senior High Youth Group:* 9th – 12th graders are invited to come each Wednesday night from 7:30 to 9:30 p.m. at the Gathering House for fun, hangout time, and Bible Study. Topics range from other religions, to life circumstances, to faith stories and sharing. Bring a friend, all are invited.

## Youth Service Opportunities

*September:* Clean out your closets! We are going to be collecting new or gently used clothing and shoes for women and children. The clothing at the end of September will be going to Children and Families of Iowa. Drop your clothing off in the entryway starting September 6.

*October:* Do you want to make a difference in the world? Come help us work with DMARC Emergency Food Pantry by collecting food items in Faith's neighborhood on October 10th, from 10-12. Faith members please donate to the red barrel in Faith's entryway.

*Youth...continued on page 10*

# Remember in Prayer

## Those with health concerns

|                    |                  |                  |                |                   |
|--------------------|------------------|------------------|----------------|-------------------|
| Kirk Schmeisser    | Susan Hanifen    | Lauren Ireland   | Drew Heuberger | Jeff Jewell       |
| Paula Bilo-Dickman | Travis Ibrahim   | Gilbert Rannick  | Reid Rhoads    | Ed Munsch         |
| Roger Melaas       | Beth Smith       | Dale Goebel      | Neva Heckman   | Donald Tiggelaar  |
| Marissa Klein      | Art Price        | Diane Zinn       | Grant Dusablon | Dorothy Coulthard |
| Holly Bergo        | Cindy Dolquist   | Hailey Zielinski | Jacob Thomas   | Steven Mullen     |
| Jennifer Lowright  | Rachel Cogil     | Sheri Hansen     | Bill Finnegan  |                   |
| Leann Goebel       | Gloria Bjorklund | Madelaine Stoen  | Gerda Dierson  |                   |
| Edwina Switek      | Bruce Gibbs      | James Ward       | Ordale Frandle |                   |
| Bob Hardin         | Ann Shackelford  | Amber Bermingham | Tommy Fischer  |                   |

## Those who celebrate

- Khalid and Kim Hassan and their new baby son Malik Hassan
- Mary Reed and Justin Rasmussen, married on June 20
- Katherine Shutters, daughter of Brian and Deb Shutters, who received her first communion
- Jeff and Amy Rowe and their newly baptized daughter Tori Lanae Rowe
- Steve and Susan Larsen and their newly baptized son Lucas John Larsen
- Dave and Lori Huffman and their newly baptized daughter Jordyn Lynn Huffman
- Bert and Michelle Zimmerman and their newly baptized daughter Abby Elizabeth Zimmerman
- Trevor and Jacque Feuerhelm and their newly baptized son Joseph Scott Feuerhelm
- Savanna Blazina and Dan Brauer, married on July 10
- Jason and Leticia Montegna and their newly baptized son Grant Alan Montegna
- Mike and Leslie Mestdagh and their newly baptized daughter Maya Jane Mestdagh
- Sean and Jennifer Kastli and their new baby son Griffin Anderson Kastli
- Collin and Janae Lane and their newly baptized daughter Adeline Elizabeth Lane
- Jason and Kelly Parkin and their newly baptized twin sons Nolen Denver Parkin and Maddox Jacob Parkin
- Eric and Valerie Bauer and their new baby daughter Olivia Nicole Bauer
- Tim and Amber Bogardus and their newly baptized son Logan Neal Bogardus
- Matt and Erika Weber and their newly baptized daughter Ruby Ann Weber
- Marcia Kalvig and Jim Vetter, married on August 7
- Michelle Bland and John Brown, married on August 15

## Those who mourn

- † The family and friends of Bonnie Pierson, mourning her death
- † Sara Day, Paul and Judy Bissinger, Pete and Christine Bissinger, Hayden and Henry, all mourning the death of their sister and aunt Matilda Stith
- † Larry and Norma Waage, Jerry and Jill Waage, Lucas and Eliza, all mourning the death of their sister and aunt Helen Plumer
- † Mike and Lisa Kock, Ben and Sam, mourning the death of Mike's brother Dave Kock
- † Joyce Coon, Harold and Linda Christ, Sis and Melissa Deuanephenh, Joseph and David, all mourning the death of their brother and uncle Herb Bender
- † Kevin and Jacque Nelson and Brooke, Aaron and Stef Curry, all mourning the death of Kevin's brother Ron Nelson
- † Pastor Mark and Roz Saline, mourning the death of their friend Greg Volgas
- † Rex and Jeanie Snyder, mourning the death of Jeanie's stepmother Eva Miller

## Those serving in the military, including . . .

|             |                |             |                     |
|-------------|----------------|-------------|---------------------|
| Alex Christ | Matt Sixta     | Reid Wilson | Nathan Jensen       |
| Luke Friese | Grant Campbell | Justin Bopp | Christopher Johnson |

# Announcements

## Cancer Support Group

Cancer Support Group will meet on the following Sundays in September and October: September 13 and October 11. We will meet at our regular time from 4:00 to 5:30 p.m. in the church office. Jan Stegeman and Barbara Cavallin are the facilitators. Anyone who is dealing with cancer or has a friend or relative who is, is encouraged to come for this inspirational, compassionate, uplifting time of devotion, information, sharing, caring and prayer.

## Blessing of the Animals

**What:** All animals welcome: cats, dogs, snakes, birds, mice, pigs, snails, hamsters, fish (large animals—horses, cows, etc. ?—will be blessed outside the East entrance)

**When:** Saturday, October 17, at 5:00 p.m. and Sunday, October 18, at 8:45, 10:00 and 11:15 a.m. worship services

**Where:** At worship in the Commons/sanctuary

**Why:** To celebrate “God’s Critters” and to create an outreach opportunity for our community

**Who:** Faith Lutheran and all the folks you invite

**How:** Bring pets to worship—the actual “blessing” will take place the first 20 minutes—and then you are welcome to keep your pets during the rest of worship or take them outside to your car. All dogs/cats, etc. must be on leashes, or in carriers.

Traditionally, “Blessing of the Animals” Sunday is on the Feast of St. Francis, the first Sunday of October. St. Francis was known to befriend and commune with the birds and animals and called them his “brothers and sisters”. He experienced the profound presence of God in creation AND in worship. Many Catholic, Episcopalian, and Lutheran churches worldwide celebrate the “Blessing of the Animals” in October as a way to affirm the graces of our Creator as found in creation. These worship services are ideal opportunities to invite a friend or neighbor to worship with their pet.

## Join Faith’s Fall Dinner Groups!

Get to know a small group of Faith members over dinner at home or go out to eat. Meet once a month for three months. It’s fun and it’s a great way to make new friends and enjoy old ones! Sign-up tables will be set up in the Commons from September 12-27. Contact: Elaine Bottelson at elaine942@myibocs.com or Jane Larson at jlarson@itagroup.com.

## World Hunger and Good Samaritan Contributions

Faith members responded quickly and generously to requests for direct contributions to two outreach programs that help the poor and hungry in our com-

munity and in the larger world. Following an appeal on World Hunger Sunday, contributions increased substantially. During the past fiscal year, total contributions to the ELCA World Hunger Appeal totaled about \$3200. During the same period, more than \$5700 was given to Faith’s Good Samaritan fund to help meet more immediate requests for financial assistance towards basic needs from those in our local community. Thank you to our members for your response.

## Learn, Laugh and Lunch

**September:** Come join us Wednesday, September 23, at 11:00 a.m. for a picnic at Saylorville Lake.

**October:** Join us in October on Wednesday, October 28 at 11:00 a.m. in St. Michael’s Hall for a discussion led by Pastor Mark on the popular book “Tuesdays with Morrie”.

Watch *Faith Weekly* for more details and RSVP deadlines.

## “Stick to the Text!”

### Sunday Morning Bible Study

**When:** 10:00 to 11:00 a.m. every Sunday morning—beginning Sunday, October 11

**Where:** Adult Ed Room

**Who:** All are invited

**What:** Study/discussion of Bible texts used in worship that Sunday

**Leader:** Brian Turner

**What Else:** Both study and group discussion; biblical context, history, theology, and application to modern day life will be covered

**How Much:** Free...*just like “grace”!*

## Being Prepared

In the spring of 2008, Iowans experienced firsthand the importance of being prepared. The disasters that affected thousands of people and devastated communities left many wondering what actions to take and how to respond. Being prepared to act on a moment’s notice can save property and lives. That is why Lutheran Services in Iowa’s disaster response services are not only working with families as they continue to recover, but LSI also offers congregations assistance in creating preparedness plans in case disaster strikes the church, its members or the community.

September is National Preparedness Month, and being prepared for any situation protects your family and allows you to act in these critical situations. To find emergency preparedness tips for your family, go to [www.lsitips.com](http://www.lsitips.com) or visit [www.ldr.org/prepare](http://www.ldr.org/prepare) and read how your congregation can prepare for emergencies. To contact LSI about our disaster response services, email us at [lsi@lsiowa.org](mailto:lsi@lsiowa.org).

# September and October 2009 Calendar

## Location Key

**Adult Education Room—AER**  
**Church Office—CO**  
**Commons—C**  
**Gathering House—GH**  
**Hannah Hall—HH**  
**Learning Center 1—LC1**  
**Learning Center 2—LC2**  
**Luther Library—LL**  
**Music Room—MR**  
**New Building—NB**  
**Pastor Dave's Study—DS**  
**Pastor Mark's Study—MS**  
**St. Michael's Hall—SMH**  
**Sanctuary—S**

### Tuesday, September 1

6:30 to 7:30 Men's Breakfast Group (LL)  
 1:00 to 3:00 Staff Meeting (CO)  
 6:30 to 8:30 First Tuesday Women's Fellowship at Susan Petersen's home  
 7:00 to 8:30 Children and Family Ministry Board Meeting

### Wednesday, September 2

6:30 to 7:30 AA (GH)  
 11:30 to 1:00 Office Volunteers Lunch at Hu-Hot  
 12:00 to 1:00 AA (GH)  
 3:00 to 5:00 Council Executive Meeting (CO)  
 6:00 to 6:45 Rockin' Faith Band Rehearsal (MR)  
 6:15 to 7:45 Confirmation Small Group Guide Orientation (GH)  
 6:30 to 7:30 Preschool Parents Night (S)  
 7:30 to 9:00 Chancel Choir Rehearsal (S)  
 7:30 to 9:30 Sr. High Youth Group (GH)

### Thursday, September 3

*Preschool Visitation Day*  
 5:30 to 6:30 AA (GH)  
 5:45 to 6:15 Centering Prayer (CO)  
 6:30 to 7:30 Mother/Daughter Book Club (LC1)  
 7:00 to 8:00 Jubilate Ringers (S)

### Friday, September 4

*Preschool Visitation Day*  
 12:00 to 1:00 AA (GH)  
 5:30 to 7:00 Wedding Rehearsal (S)

### Saturday, September 5

1:00 Janson/Kaiser Wedding  
 5:00 Worship: Summer Sandals

### Sunday, September 6

8:45 Worship: Summer Sandals

10:00 Worship: Summer Sandals  
 5:00 Interfaith Hospitality Network Guest Arrival (GH)

### Monday, September 7

*Office Closed*  
*Interfaith Hospitality Network*  
 12:00 to 1:00 AI-Anon (GH)  
 5:30 to 6:30 AI-Anon (S)

### Tuesday, September 8

*Interfaith Hospitality Network*  
*Preschool Begins*  
 6:30 to 7:30 Men's Breakfast Group (GH)  
 7:30 a.m. to 8:00 p.m. Polk County Polling Place (C)  
 9:00 to 10:30 Search and Serve Bible Study (LL)  
 1:00 to 3:00 Staff Meeting (CO)  
 1:00 to 3:00 Circle of Friends Bible Study (SMH)  
 6:30 to 8:30 Council Meeting (SMH)

### Wednesday, September 9

*Interfaith Hospitality Network*  
 6:30 to 7:30 AA (SMH)  
 12:00 to 1:00 AA (GH)  
 6:00 to 6:45 Rockin' Faith Band Rehearsal (MR)  
 6:15 to 7:45 Confirmation Orientation (S) (C)  
 6:30 to 7:30 2nd Graders Up with the Bible Class (SMH)  
 7:30 to 9:00 Chancel Choir Rehearsal (S)  
 7:30 to 9:30 Sr. High Youth Group (GH)

### Thursday, September 10

*Interfaith Hospitality Network*  
 4:30 to 7:00 Heartland Youth Choir (GH)  
 5:00 to 7:45 Heartland Youth Choir Parents' Meetings (GH)  
 5:30 to 6:30 AA (S)  
 5:45 to 6:15 Centering Prayer (CO)  
 7:00 to 8:00 Jubilate Ringers (S)  
 7:00 to 8:30 Books and Bites (LL)

### Friday, September 11

*Interfaith Hospitality Network*  
 9:30 to 11:30 Friends of Ruth Bible Study (AER)  
 12:00 to 1:00 AA (GH)  
 6:00 to 8:00 6th and 7th Grade Fellowship (SMH)

### Saturday, September 12

*Interfaith Hospitality Network*  
 5:00 Worship: Spirit of Faith  
 7:00 to 8:30 Sr. High Youth Group at Campbell Park in Clive

### Sunday, September 13

8:00 Interfaith Hospitality Network Guest

Departure (GH)  
 8:45 Worship: Traditions of Faith  
 10:00 Worship: Traditions of Faith

11:00 to 12:00 Three-Year-Olds K.I.C.K. Orientation (SMH)  
 1:00 to 5:00 Heartland Youth Choir (GH)  
 4:00 to 5:00 Cancer Support Group (CO)  
 7:00 to 8:00 H.O.L.E. (Hanging Out, Laughing and Eating) Youth Divorce Support Group (GH)

### Monday, September 14

12:00 to 1:00 AI-Anon (GH)  
 1:00 to 3:00 Faith Knitters (LL)  
 4:00 to 5:30 Heartland Youth Choir Auditions (GH)  
 5:30 to 6:30 AI-Anon (GH)  
 5:30 to 6:30 TOPS (GH)  
 5:30 to 8:30 Heartland Youth Choir (GH)  
 6:00 to 6:30 Heartland Youth Choir Parents Meeting (GH)  
 6:00 to 7:00 Stephen Ministers (CO)  
 6:00 to 8:00 Preschool Board Meeting (LC1)  
 6:30 to 8:00 Cub Scout Pack Meeting (SMH)  
 7:00 to 9:00 Faith Knitters (CO)  
 7:00 to 9:00 Boy Scouts (GH)

### Tuesday, September 15

6:30 to 7:30 Men's Breakfast Group (GH)  
 9:00 to 10:30 Search and Serve Bible Study (LL)  
 1:00 to 3:00 Staff Meeting (CO)  
 6:30 to 7:00 Heartland Youth Choir Parents Meeting (GH)  
 6:30 to 8:30 Heartland Youth Choir (GH)  
 7:00 to 8:00 Cub Scout Parents Meeting (GH)  
 7:00 to 8:00 Women of Faith Rehearsal (S)

### Wednesday, September 16

6:30 to 7:30 AA (GH)  
 11:30 to 12:30 Preschool Teachers Meeting (LL)  
 12:00 to 1:00 AA (GH)  
 FAITH NIGHT begins (see full FAITH NIGHT schedule on page 10)

### Thursday, September 17

11:30 to 1:00 Out-to-Lunch Bunch at Skip's on Fleur Drive  
 4:30 to 7:00 Heartland Youth Choir (GH)  
 5:30 to 6:30 AA (GH)  
 5:45 to 6:15 Centering Prayer (CO)  
 7:00 to 8:00 Jubilate Ringers (S)

### Friday, September 18

9:30 to 11:30 Friends of Ruth Bible Study (AER)

12:00 to 1:00 AA (GH)  
5:30 to 7:00 Wedding Rehearsal (S)

**Saturday, September 19**

3:00 McLeod/Gustafson Wedding  
5:00 Worship: Spirit of Faith  
6:00 to 8:00 8th and 9th Grade Fellowship (GH)

**Sunday, September 20**

*Food Pantry Sunday*

8:45 Worship: Traditions of Faith  
8:45 K.I.C.K. (Kids in Christ's Kingdom) for PreKindergartners through 5th Graders  
8:45 6th and 7th Grade Education (GH)  
8:45 8th and 9th Grade Education (GH)  
8:45 Sr. High Bible Study (GH)  
10:00 Worship: Traditions of Faith  
10:00 K.I.C.K. (Kids in Christ's Kingdom) for PreKindergartners through 5th Graders  
10:00 6th and 7th Grade Education (GH)  
10:00 8th and 9th Grade Education (GH)  
10:00 Sr. High Bible Study (GH)  
1:00 to 5:00 Heartland Youth Choir (GH)  
4:00 to 5:30 Festival Choir Rehearsal (S)

**Monday, September 21**

12:00 to 1:00 Al-Anon (GH)  
1:00 to 3:00 Faith Knitters (LL)  
4:45 to 8:30 Children and Family Ministry Fundraiser at Pizza Ranch in Waukeg  
5:30 to 6:30 Al-Anon (GH)  
5:30 to 6:30 TOPS (GH)  
5:30 to 8:30 Heartland Youth Choir (GH)  
6:00 to 7:00 Stephen Ministers (SMH)  
6:30 to 8:30 Cooking Club at Kelly Adams' home  
7:00 to 8:00 Tiger Cub Scout Meeting (GH)  
7:00 to 9:00 Boy Scouts (SMH)

**Tuesday, September 22**

6:30 to 7:30 Men's Breakfast Group (GH)  
9:00 to 10:30 Search and Serve Bible Study (LL)  
1:00 to 3:00 Staff Meeting (CO)  
6:30 to 8:30 Heartland Youth Choir (GH)  
7:00 to 8:00 Board Meetings (SMH)

**Wednesday, September 23**

6:30 to 7:30 AA (GH)  
11:00 to 1:00 Learn, Laugh and Lunch at Saylerville Lake  
12:00 to 1:00 AA (GH)  
FAITH NIGHT (see full FAITH NIGHT schedule on page 10)

**Thursday, September 24**

4:30 to 7:00 Heartland Youth Choir (GH)  
5:30 to 6:30 AA (GH)  
5:45 to 6:15 Centering Prayer (CO)  
7:00 to 8:00 Men of Faith Rehearsal (MR)  
7:00 to 8:00 Jubilate Ringers (S)

**Friday, September 25**

9:30 to 11:30 Friends of Ruth Bible Study (AER)

12:00 to 1:00 AA (GH)  
6:00 7th Grade Confirmation Retreat Departure

**Saturday, September 26**

4:00 7th Grade Confirmation Retreat Return  
5:00 Worship: Spirit of Faith

**Sunday, September 27**

8:45 Worship: Traditions of Faith  
8:45 K.I.C.K. (Kids in Christ's Kingdom) for PreKindergartners through 5th Graders  
8:45 6th and 7th Grade Education (GH)  
8:45 8th and 9th Grade Education (GH)  
8:45 Sr. High Bible Study (GH)  
10:00 Worship: Traditions of Faith and Baptism  
10:00 K.I.C.K. (Kids in Christ's Kingdom) for PreKindergartners through 5th Graders  
10:00 6th and 7th Grade Education (GH)  
10:00 8th and 9th Grade Education (GH)  
10:00 Sr. High Bible Study (GH)  
11:15 to 12:15 New Member Class (AER)  
1:00 to 5:00 Heartland Youth Choir (GH)  
6:00 to 7:00 Hymn Festival and Organ Recital (S)  
6:00 to 9:30 Trisynodical Conference (S) (C) (SMH) (NB204/205)  
7:00 to 8:00 Women's Divorce Support Group (GH)  
7:00 to 8:00 H.O.L.E. (Hanging Out, Laughing and Eating) Youth Divorce Support Group (GH)

**Monday, September 28**

12:00 to 1:00 Al-Anon (GH)  
1:00 to 3:00 Faith Knitters (LL)  
5:30 to 6:30 Al-Anon (GH)  
5:30 to 6:30 TOPS (GH)  
5:30 to 8:30 Heartland Youth Choir (GH)  
6:00 to 7:00 Stephen Ministers (NB203)  
7:00 to 9:00 Boy Scouts (GH)  
7:30 to 9:30 Trisynodical Worship and Reception (S) (C)

**Tuesday, September 29**

6:30 to 7:30 Men's Breakfast Group (NB203)  
9:00 to 10:30 Search and Serve Bible Study (NB203)  
1:00 to 3:00 Staff Meeting (LC1)  
6:30 to 8:30 Heartland Youth Choir (GH)  
7:00 to 8:00 Winds of the Spirit Flute Ensemble Rehearsal (S)

**Wednesday, September 30**

6:30 to 7:30 AA (GH)  
12:00 to 1:00 AA (GH)  
FAITH NIGHT (see full FAITH NIGHT schedule on page 10)

**Thursday, October 1**

4:30 to 7:00 Heartland Youth Choir (GH)  
5:30 to 6:30 AA (GH)  
5:45 to 6:15 Centering Prayer (AER)

6:00 to 7:00 Communion Education (SMH)  
6:30 to 7:30 Mother/Daughter Book Club (NB204)  
7:00 to 8:00 Jubilate Ringers (S)

**Friday, October 2**

*No Preschool*

9:30 to 11:30 Friends of Ruth Bible Study (NB203)

12:00 to 1:00 AA (GH)

**Saturday, October 3**

5:00 Worship: Spirit of Faith  
6:00 Ribbon-Cutting for the New Building

**Sunday, October 4**

*25th Anniversary Celebration*

*Dedication of the New Building*

8:45 Worship: Traditions of Faith  
8:45 K.I.C.K. (Kids in Christ's Kingdom) for PreKindergartners through 5th Graders  
8:45 6th and 7th Grade Caring Conversations (NB204/205)  
8:45 8th and 9th Grade Caring Conversations (GH)  
8:45 Sr. High Bible Study (GH)  
10:00 Worship: Traditions of Faith  
10:00 K.I.C.K. (Kids in Christ's Kingdom) for PreKindergartners through 5th Graders  
10:00 6th and 7th Grade Caring Conversations (NB204/205)  
10:00 8th and 9th Grade Caring Conversations (GH)  
10:00 Sr. High Bible Study (GH)  
11:15 to 12:15 New Member Class (NB204)  
11:15 to 12:15 25th Anniversary Program (SMH)  
1:00 to 5:00 Heartland Youth Choir (GH)  
4:00 to 5:30 Festival Choir Rehearsal (S)

**Monday, October 5**

12:00 to 1:00 Al-Anon (GH)  
1:00 to 3:00 Faith Knitters (NB203)  
5:30 to 6:30 Al-Anon (GH)  
5:30 to 6:30 TOPS (GH)  
5:30 to 8:30 Heartland Youth Choir (GH)  
6:30 to 8:30 Cub Scout Pack Meeting (SMH)  
7:00 to 9:00 Boy Scouts (GH)

**Tuesday, October 6**

6:30 to 7:30 Men's Breakfast Group (NB203)  
9:00 to 10:30 Search and Serve Bible Study (NB203)  
1:00 to 3:00 Staff Meeting (LC1)  
6:30 to 8:30 Heartland Youth Choir (GH)  
7:00 to 8:00 Winds of the Spirit Flute Ensemble Rehearsal (S)

**Wednesday, October 7**

6:30 to 7:30 AA (GH)  
12:00 to 1:00 AA (GH)  
FAITH NIGHT (see full FAITH NIGHT schedule on page 10)

**Thursday, October 8**

4:30 to 7:00 Heartland Youth Choir (GH)  
 5:30 to 6:30 AA (GH)  
 5:45 to 6:15 Centering Prayer (AER)  
 6:00 to 7:00 Communion Education (SMH)  
 6:30 to 7:30 Mother/Daughter Book Club (NB204)  
 7:00 to 8:00 Jubilate Ringers (S)

**Friday, October 9**

9:30 to 11:30 Friends of Ruth Bible Study (NB203)  
 12:00 to 1:00 AA (GH)

**Saturday, October 10**

5:00 Worship: Spirit of Faith

**Sunday, October 11**

*Hunger Sunday*

8:45 Worship: Traditions of Faith  
 8:45 K.I.C.K. (Kids in Christ's Kingdom) for PreKindergartners through 5th Graders  
 8:45 6th and 7th Grade Education (NB204/205)  
 8:45 8th and 9th Grade Education (GH)  
 8:45 Sr. High Bible Study (GH)  
 10:00 Worship: Traditions of Faith and Blessing of the Keys  
 10:00 K.I.C.K. (Kids in Christ's Kingdom) for PreKindergartners through 5th Graders  
 10:00 6th and 7th Grade Education (NB204/205)  
 10:00 8th and 9th Grade Education (GH)  
 10:00 Sr. High Bible Study (GH)  
 10:00 Stick to the Text—Sunday Morning Bible Study (AER)  
 11:15 to 12:15 New Member Class (NB204)  
 11:15 Worship: Faith Today  
 1:00 to 5:00 Heartland Youth Choir (GH)  
 1:30 Hunger Hike at the State Capitol  
 4:00 to 5:30 Festival Choir Rehearsal (S)  
 4:00 to 5:30 Cancer Support Group (CO)  
 7:00 to 8:00 H.O.L.E. (Hanging Out, Laughing and Eating) Youth Divorce Support Group (GH)

**Monday, October 12**

12:00 to 1:00 Al-Anon (GH)  
 1:00 to 3:00 Faith Knitters (NB203)  
 5:30 to 6:30 Al-Anon (GH)  
 5:30 to 6:30 TOPS (GH)  
 5:30 to 8:30 Heartland Youth Choir (GH)  
 6:00 to 7:00 Stephen Ministers (NG203)  
 6:00 to 8:00 Preschool Board Meeting (LC1)  
 6:00 to 9:00 American Guild of Organists Gathering (S)  
 7:00 to 9:00 Boy Scouts (SMH)  
 7:00 to 9:00 Faith Knitters (CO)

**Tuesday, October 13**

6:30 to 7:30 Men's Breakfast Group (NB203)  
 9:00 to 10:30 Search and Serve Bible Study (NB203)

12:00 Newsletter Deadline  
 1:00 to 3:00 Staff Meeting (LC1)  
 1:00 to 3:00 Circle of Friends Bible Study (NB203)  
 4:00 to 8:00 Blood Drive in the Bloodmobile  
 6:30 to 8:30 Heartland Youth Choir (GH)  
 6:30 to 8:30 Council Meeting (NB203)

**Wednesday, October 14**

6:30 to 7:30 AA (GH)  
 11:30 to 12:30 Preschool Teachers Meeting (NB203)  
 12:00 to 1:00 AA (GH)  
 FAITH NIGHT (see full FAITH NIGHT schedule on page 10)

**Thursday, October 15**

11:30 to 1:00 Out-to-Lunch Bunch at Nick's in Clive  
 4:30 to 7:00 Heartland Youth Choir (GH)  
 5:30 to 6:30 AA (GH)  
 5:45 to 6:15 Centering Prayer (AER)  
 6:00 to 7:30 Communion Orientation (S) (SMH)  
 7:00 to 8:00 Jubilate Ringers (S)

**Friday, October 16**

9:30 to 11:30 Friends of Ruth Bible Study (NB203)  
 12:00 to 1:00 AA (GH)  
 5:00 to 7:00 8th and 9th Grade Fellowship at Warrior Lanes in Waukegan  
 7:00 to 8:30 Soli Deo Musica Concert: Tom Booth, tenor (S)

**Saturday, October 17**

5:00 Worship: Spirit of Faith and Blessing of the Animals

**Sunday, October 18**

*Food Pantry Sunday*

*Blessing of the Animals*

8:45 Worship: Traditions of Faith  
 8:45 K.I.C.K. (Kids in Christ's Kingdom) for PreKindergartners through 5th Graders  
 8:45 6th and 7th Grade Education (NB204/205)  
 8:45 8th and 9th Grade Education (GH)  
 8:45 Sr. High Bible Study (GH)  
 10:00 Worship: Traditions of Faith  
 10:00 K.I.C.K. (Kids in Christ's Kingdom) for PreKindergartners through 5th Graders  
 10:00 6th and 7th Grade Education (NB204/205)  
 10:00 8th and 9th Grade Education (GH)  
 10:00 Sr. High Bible Study (GH)  
 10:00 Stick to the Text—Sunday Morning Bible Study (AER)  
 11:15 to 12:15 New Member Class (NB204)  
 11:15 Worship: Faith Today  
 1:00 to 5:00 Heartland Youth Choir (GH)  
 4:00 to 5:30 Festival Choir Rehearsal (MR)  
 5:00 to 7:00 Wagon Ride at Living History Farms

6:45 to 9:00 Lutheran College Fair (S) (C) (SMH)

**Monday, October 19**

12:00 to 1:00 Al-Anon (GH)  
 1:00 to 3:00 Faith Knitters (NB203)  
 5:30 to 6:30 Al-Anon (GH)  
 5:30 to 6:30 TOPS (GH)  
 5:30 to 8:30 Heartland Youth Choir (GH)  
 6:30 to 7:30 Cooking Club at Barb Schmiegs' home  
 7:00 to 9:00 Boy Scouts (SMH)

**Tuesday, October 20**

6:30 to 7:30 Men's Breakfast Group (NB203)  
 9:00 to 10:30 Search and Serve Bible Study (NB203)  
 9:00 to 11:00 Newsletter Assemblers (SMH)  
 9:00 to 3:00 Preschool Pictures (HH3)  
 1:00 to 3:00 Staff Meeting (LC1)  
 6:30 to 8:30 Heartland Youth Choir (GH)  
 6:30 to 9:30 Craft Night (SMH)

**Wednesday, October 21**

6:30 to 7:30 AA (GH)  
 9:00 to 3:00 Preschool Pictures (HH3)  
 12:00 to 1:00 AA (GH)  
 FAITH NIGHT (see full FAITH NIGHT schedule on page 10)

**Thursday, October 22**

9:00 to 3:00 Preschool Pictures (HH3)  
 4:30 to 7:00 Heartland Youth Choir (GH)  
 5:30 to 6:30 AA (GH)  
 5:45 to 6:15 Centering Prayer (AER)  
 6:30 to 7:30 Preschool Creating Community Committee (LL)  
 7:00 to 8:00 Jubilate Ringers (S)

**Friday, October 23**

9:30 to 11:30 Friends of Ruth Bible Study (NB203)  
 12:00 to 1:00 AA (GH)

**Saturday, October 24**

5:00 Worship: Spirit of Faith  
 6:00 to 9:00 Marriage Encounter (GH)

**Sunday, October 25**

*Food Pantry Sunday*

8:45 Worship: Traditions of Faith  
 8:45 K.I.C.K. (Kids in Christ's Kingdom) for PreKindergartners through 5th Graders  
 8:45 6th and 7th Grade Education (NB204/205)  
 8:45 8th and 9th Grade Education (GH)  
 8:45 Sr. High Bible Study (GH)  
 10:00 Worship: Traditions of Faith  
 10:00 K.I.C.K. (Kids in Christ's Kingdom) for PreKindergartners through 5th Graders  
 10:00 6th and 7th Grade Education (NB204/205)  
 10:00 8th and 9th Grade Education (GH)  
 10:00 Sr. High Bible Study (GH)  
 10:00 Stick to the Text—Sunday Morning

Bible Study (AER)  
 11:15 to 12:15 New Member Class (NB204)  
 11:15 Worship: Faith Today  
 1:00 to 5:00 Heartland Youth Choir (GH)  
 3:00 to 6:00 6th and 7th Grade Fellowship (GH)  
 4:00 to 5:00 Children's Halloween Party (SMH)  
 4:00 to 5:30 Festival Choir Rehearsal (MR)  
 5:00 to 6:00 Trunk or Treat in the parking lot  
 7:00 to 8:00 Women's Divorce Support Group (AER)  
 7:00 to 8:00 H.O.L.E. (Hanging Out, Laughing and Eating) Youth Divorce Support Group (GH)

**Monday, October 26**

12:00 to 1:00 AI-Anon (GH)  
 1:00 to 3:00 Faith Knitters (NB203)  
 5:30 to 6:30 AI-Anon (GH)  
 5:30 to 6:30 TOPS (GH)  
 5:30 to 8:30 Heartland Youth Choir (GH)  
 6:00 to 7:00 Stephen Ministers (NB203)  
 7:00 to 9:00 Faith Knitters (CO)  
 7:00 to 9:00 Boy Scouts (SMH)

**Tuesday, October 27**

6:30 to 7:30 Men's Breakfast Group (NB203)  
 9:00 to 10:30 Search and Serve Bible Study (NB203)  
 1:00 to 3:00 Staff Meeting (LC1)  
 6:30 to 8:30 Heartland Youth Choir (GH)  
 7:00 to 9:00 Board Meetings (SMH)

**Wednesday, October 28**

6:30 to 7:30 AA (GH)  
 11:00 to 1:00 Learn, Laugh and Lunch (SMH)  
 12:00 to 1:00 AA (GH)  
 FAITH NIGHT (see full FAITH NIGHT schedule to the right)

**Thursday, October 29**

4:30 to 7:00 Heartland Youth Choir (GH)  
 5:30 to 6:30 AA (GH)  
 5:45 to 6:15 Centering Prayer (AER)  
 7:00 to 8:00 Jubilate Ringers (S)

**Friday, October 30**

9:30 to 11:30 Friends of Ruth Bible Study (NB203)  
 12:00 to 1:00 AA (GH)

**Saturday, October 31**

5:00 Worship: Spirit of Faith  
 6:00 to 9:00 Marriage Encounter (GH)

**Faith Night Schedule**

**5:15 to 6:00 Faith Feast (SMH)**  
**5:30 to 6:15 Confirmation Singers (MR)**  
**5:45 to 6:15 Nursery Open**  
**6:00 to 7:00 Foundations of Faith for PreKindergartners (HH6/8)**  
**6:00 to 7:00 Foundations of Faith for Kindergartners ((HH5/7)**  
**6:00 to 7:00 eXploring Our Strengths (NB105)**  
**6:00 to 7:00 Beatitudes (HH4)**  
**6:00 to 7:00 Peers (NB106)**  
**6:00 to 7:00 Alleluia Choir (NB104)**  
**6:00 to 7:00 Messiah Choir (S)**  
**6:15 to 7:45 7th Grade Confirmation (GH)**  
**6:15 to 7:45 8th Grade Confirmation (NB204)**  
**6:15 to 7:45 9th Grade Confirmation (NB205)**  
**6:30 to 7:15 Rockin' Faith Band (MR)**  
**6:30 to 7:30 Brass Ensemble (DS)**  
**7:30 to 9:00 Chancel Choir (S)**  
**7:30 to 9:30 Sr. High Youth Group (GH)**

*Youth...continued from page 4*

*More October Service Opportunities:* Des Moines holds an annual Hunger Hike every year in order to raise money for hunger in Iowa. We will walk 5 to 6 miles around Des Moines and through Union Park. Prior to this event you will ask for donations for this benefit. This walk takes place on Sunday, October 11, during the afternoon hours. Join us fight hunger while having a fun experience with your friends!

**6th and 7th Grade Fellowship**

- Lights, camera, action...it's time for a video scavenger hunt. We'll meet at the Gathering House at 6:00 p.m. on Friday, September 11. Parent volunteers are needed to help provide transportation. This event will end at 8:00 p.m.
- B.Y.O.P. - That's "bring your own pumpkin" for our annual junior high Halloween costume and pumpkin carving party on Sunday, October 25,

from 3:00 to 6:00 p.m. We'll meet at the Gathering House for our party first, then head out to the parking lot to show off our pumpkin carving handiwork and to pass out candy to the younger kids participating in "Trunk or Treat".

**8th and 9th Grade Fellowship**

- Red, purple, yellow, blue...it's tie dye time. Bring a white tee, pillowcase, or any other dye-worthy item to the Gathering House on Saturday, September 19, 6:00 to 8:00 p.m. Our colorful crowd will play a game of "K.I.C.K.ball" after the dyeing is done.
- Put on your silliest, scariest, or downright craziest costume because we're heading to...the *bowling alley*? That's right, we're having a one-of-a-kind Halloween party at Warrior Lanes in Waukee. So don your wig, mask, and cape — then meet us at Warrior Lanes from 5:00 to 7:00 p.m. on Friday, October 16.

# Sharing the Ministry

## THE JOURNEY *by Mary Oliver*

One day you finally knew  
what you had to do, and began,  
though the voices around you  
kept shouting  
their bad advice—  
though the whole house  
began to tremble  
and you felt the old tug  
at your ankles.  
“Mend my life!”  
each voice cried.  
But you didn’t stop.  
You knew what you had to do,  
though the wind pried  
with its stiff fingers  
at the very foundations,  
though their melancholy  
was terrible.

It was already late  
enough, and a wild night,  
and the road full of fallen  
branches and stones.  
But little by little,  
as you left their voices behind,  
the stars began to burn  
through the sheets of clouds,  
and there was a new voice  
which you slowly  
recognized as your own,  
that kept you company  
as you strode deeper and deeper  
into the world,  
determined to do  
the only thing you could do —  
determined to save  
the only life that you could save.

The only life you could save? As Christians we don’t save lives – Jesus does. Yet this poem so profoundly leads us through the journey each Christian must take, saving the one life we can save – our own.

Three years ago I was in a similar life stage to the one I find myself in now. As my ministry at Faith draws to a close I am in a search just as I was at that time. I have been a teacher, a full-time mother of three, a business owner/manager and co-contractor of our home. Now I can add trainer and project developer to my resume. As I look back on my tenure at Faith I am reminded of the clear call I heard to accept this position. At the same time I was considering the Faith position, I was offered another opportunity that—like many in the private sector—held the promise of better pay and benefits. However, I strongly heard God calling me to the Sharing the Ministry Director. The beginning of Mary Oliver’s poem seems much more dramatic than this moment felt to me. Yet there was a definite instant when I knew this was the only thing I could do.

*One day you finally knew what you had to do and began . . .*

Our ordinary, everyday lives can hold powerful, life-changing moments. Roger Housden, in his commentary on Oliver’s poem, says, “Profound and significant changes can occur through the smallest, apparently insignificant gesture.”

And so I began this new chapter in my life as a Faith staff member. I made this transition in spite of the counsel of well meaning folk, who did not completely understand the call to vocation.

*Though the voices around you kept shouting their bad advice— though the whole house began to tremble and you felt the old tug at your ankles.*

Sometimes our call from God doesn’t make sense in our worldly terms. We read story after story in the Bible about those who followed God’s call, even when it was difficult and others thought them a little wacko for doing so. Consider Abraham, Sarah, Moses, Mary, Joseph . . . Even when success in worldly ways pointed

the other direction, they knew.

“What I learned . . . is how one’s values can do battle with one’s heart”, Parker Palmer offers in his little book, *Let Your Life Speak*. Housden affirmed, “The forces wanting you to stay where you are can be daunting.” Therefore, taking time for contemplation and prayer is necessary at these junctures, in whatever way you choose. As passed on in Psalm 46:10, “Be still and know . . .” We must quiet our lives to hear God’s voice and know His direction.

Traveling our authentic path can be a rough road, laden with many obstacles.

*It was already late enough, and a wild night and the road full of fallen branches and stones.*

Fear can paralyze us and prevent us from taking that first step. We don’t know where the road leads. There are too many unknowns.

Housden’s commentary tells us that gnosis, the kind of knowing that requires no definitive data, is paramount to faith. Faith is simply knowing – without any proof, documentation or logic. We know in a gnosis and faithful way who we truly are. We may have forgotten or have listened to well meaning voices too often, but we know when the call arrives. Like Dorothy in Oz, it was always inside her. She only needed to look to find it. It’s inside each of us.

*Sharing the Ministry ...continued on page 14*

# Worship, Music, and the Arts



## MUSIC NOTES...

The *Men of Faith* sang a beautiful hymn this summer at one of the 10:00 services in July, *Precious Lord, Take my Hand* by Tommy Dorsey. Mr. Dorsey wrote this hymn after receiving the tragic news of the death of his wife and newborn infant son. In his grief he cried to God to lead him “through the storm, through the night...” Tommy Dorsey went on to compose more than 250 gospel songs. He once stated...

*“I write for all of God’s people. All people are my people. What I share with people is love. I try to lift their spirits and let them know that God still loves them...”*

The Music Ministry at Faith Lutheran Church calls us to proclaim this love God has for us in Christ Jesus! I want to praise all of our summer musicians for offering their time and talents to share their gifts in this special place...you are a special people!

### Soli Deo Musica 2009

The Soli Deo Musica Garden Party at the home of Julie and Brian Hart was a great success! A dessert and wine reception was provided with entertainment by Faith’s College Jazz Combo. Be sure to watch *Faith Weekly* and future publicity for more Soli Deo Musica events and information! Thank you to the generosity of our patrons as we look ahead to an exciting season of music.

*Soli Deo Musica*

**Fall Conference Communion Worship**—The Iowa Trisynodical Fall Conference Communion Worship, Monday September 28, at 7:30 p.m. is being hosted at Faith Lutheran this year. Approximately 400 ELCA leaders in Iowa will be attending this special service. In addition, Grandview College Choir will be participating in this service with all our talented musicians from Faith.

**Thomas Booth, Tenor at Faith Lutheran Church**—On Friday, [October 16](#), Thomas Booth will present a concert at Faith. Internationally acclaimed tenor, Thomas Booth has performed widely in opera and concert around the United States and throughout Europe and other parts of the World. His principal vocal training was at the *Juilliard School* in

New York with Russian Bass Alexander Kipnis and also privately with Metropolitan Opera tenors James King and John Alexander. Mr. Booth holds his Masters in Voice and Opera Performance from Northwestern International University in Denmark and his Bachelors from the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill. Under management with Columbia Artists and later ICM Artists Ltd., Booth sang with the *Metropolitan Opera* in principal and leading roles for nine seasons and sang for five seasons with the *Lyric Opera of Chicago* and also with the *New York City Opera*.

**Festival Choir Performs Bach’s Famous Reformation Chorale Cantata**—November 8, at 4:00 p.m. *Ein’ feste Burg ist unser Gott (BWV 80)* will be performed with soloists and chamber orchestra. The chorale melody was supposedly composed by Martin Luther and is one of the most beloved hymns of Lutheran tradition throughout the world: *A Mighty Fortress is our God*.

**Lessons and Carols**—Celebrate the season at our Traditional Lessons and Carols services at 8:45 and 10:00 a.m. on Sunday, December 13. The glorious sounds of Advent and Christmas will be led by the Festival Choir, Alleluia and Messiah children’s choirs, Jubilate Ringers, Brass Quintet and our own organist, Bev Duffy.

### Music Ensembles Resume Rehearsals Mark your Calendars!

**Chancel Choir**—Wednesday, August 26, 7:30 to 9:00 p.m. Open to all adults ages 19 and older, no audition is required...just a desire to share the gospel in song! Chancel Choir leads worship at the 8:45 and 10:00 a.m. services and festival services from September through May. Standard SATB literature, psalms, hymns and liturgies are all chosen from a variety of styles.

**Jubilate Ringers**—Thursday, August 27, 7:00 to 8:00 p.m. Our advanced handbell ensemble leads worship twice a month at alternating services, all festival services and provides special music during Lent and Advent services. Previous handbell experience is required to participate.

**Festival Choir**—Sunday, September 13, 4:00 to 5:30 p.m. Open to all adult singers in the congregation, no audition is necessary! Two major choral works are presented during the year, with soloists and a chamber ensemble.

**Men of Faith—Thursday, September 24, 7:00 to 8:00 p.m.** Our TTBB ensemble is open to all men at Faith! This special group leads worship once a month at alternating services and sings a variety of musical styles.

**Women of Faith—Tuesday, September 15, 7:00 to 8:00 p.m.** Our women's ensemble is open to all women who enjoy singing at Faith! This ensemble leads worship also once a month at alternating services and sings a variety of musical styles!

**Faith Today Team—Thursdays 6:00 to 7:00 p.m.** Adult guitarists, drummers, bass players and singers are invited to join this contemporary ensemble that leads worship at alternating services.

**Winds of the Spirit—Tuesday, September 29, and as scheduled, 7:00 p.m.** This flute ensemble is open to all flutes at Faith! Occasionally, other wind instruments are invited to play with this special ensemble. The flutes play once a month during worship at alternating services and at special services throughout the year.

**Brass Quintet—Wednesday, September 23, 6:30 p.m.** Our Brass ensemble is made up of five musicians from Faith and occasionally invites other guest brass players as needed. This group leads worship once a month at alternating services, festival services and during Lent and Advent. An audition or invitation is required to participate. Call Don Beck (515) 277-1915 for additional details.

### **Children's Music Ministry**

**Alleluia Choir (1st -3rd grade)—Wednesday, September 16, 6:00 to 7:00 p.m.** Alleluia Choir rehearses once a week...singers will be learning basic singing skills and songs of faith! Orff instruments, body movement and taking an active

role in leading worship at the 10:00 a.m. service are all a part of this fun group. Come and sing with us!

**Messiah Choir (4th—6th grade)—Wednesday, September 16, 6:00 to 7:00 p.m.** Messiah Choir rehearses once a week...singers in this choir will be learning more challenging music that proclaims the message of the gospel in song and sing two to three part music, learn how to sight-sing using Kodaly (do-re-mi) and Curwen hand signs. Messiah singers will lead worship at the 10:00 a.m. service once a month

Also, we will be singing with the Chancel Choir and Confirmation Singers for Festival Sundays and special services. Choir Camps, seasonal parties and performing with the Faith's annual Children's Musical are all in the plans...an exciting year ahead is promised!

**Confirmation Singers and Ringers (7th -9th grade)—5:30 to 6:15 p.m.** All confirmation students are invited to sing and ring on Faith Night! Plus, your in-service points, out-service points and 10 sermon notes are included (so, you only have to take sermon notes 10 Sundays, instead of 20)! In addition, you will learn how to improve your singing voice, learn how to read music (what do all those lines, spaces and dots actually mean?) and sight-sing. Some worship ed stuff will be a part of this arrangement...like what is an usher and where do the flowers on the altar really come from? We will also ring handbells and chimes and lead the 10:00 a.m. worship service once a month. Plus a field trip, a few parties and a Choir Tour at the end of the year are all planned!

**Rockin' Faith Band (10-12 grade)— 6:30 to 7:15 p.m.** Hey...do you want to play your instrument, or sing perhaps some of the most important music of your life? Singers, guitarists, bass players, drums and flutes, sax and clarinets, trumpets, violins (ie. fiddlers) and the like, are all a part of this new band at Faith. We will be writing worship services and leading them; arranging music (only, if you want); and really "Jammin' for Jesus". Bring your friends, cousins, neighbors, people in your classes...really anyone you might like to make music with for the sake of the Gospel!

***God be with you, as we move into our fall ministries!***

—Sherry Kocek  
Music Ministry Director

*But little by little, as you left their voices behind, the stars began to burn through the sheets of clouds, and there was a new voice which you slowly recognized as your own.*

It isn't a selfish act to go where we know we must go and be our own true selves. Far from it. It is the greatest gift we can give each other and the world. It is the finest response we can give to God's gracious gift of life. He purposefully made each of us the way we are. Not because He was bored with other creations, but because He wants someone just like me and someone exactly like you in this world. To follow where our heart leads must be the force that drives our life.

As our genuine selves we walk not away from the world, but into it.

*. . . kept you company as you strode deeper and deeper into the world . . .*

Our most basic call is to be our true self in our families, jobs and neighborhoods. We belong in the world because God is in the world. He wants us there with Him; being who He created us to be. Understanding that is a fundamental to the Christian walk. It was the basis for Martin Luther's teachings.

In following the call I heard to join the Faith staff there was no heavenly music or angels appearing in the clouds. Everything was the same, yet everything was different. Housden shares that, in being true to

that small voice within, ". . . you are being of service to others and to the world in the most profound way possible. You cannot know where that voice will take you, but in being willing

*. . . to save the only life you could save . . .*

you are affirming one of the deepest and most sobering truths of all: no one else can ever walk your journey for you. You alone can respond to your call."

Sometimes it is obvious God is actively pointing me in a new direction. Other times I know the path I must take because a door closes behind me rather than opens ahead. This is where I stand now. The door that opened to start this ministry at Faith is closing for me. Pastor Mark will be continuing this ministry through small groups. He will be your "go-to-guy" for encountering your true path and discovering how God calls you to be in the world. 1st and 2nd grade *eXploring Our Strengths* program is transferring to the talented Children and Family Ministries. The Confirmation retreat program will transition back to the very able hands of Youth and Family Ministries and Pastor Dave.

I have been greatly blessed the past three years, both on my own path and as I've walked with you on your journey. May you listen to God's voice as you journey and follow your true path into His world.

**—Pam Larson**  
*Sharing the Ministry Director*

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*From the Pastor...continued from page 15*

***How does your church try to help people in this tough economic time?***

It doesn't feel like nearly enough. We have between thirty and forty support groups and small groups. Most people find comfort weathering the storm when they can do so with others they respect and trust. We participate in the Des Moines Area Religious Council Food Bank that helps to provide food. Four times a year homeless families stay in our building through our partnership with Interfaith Hospitality Network. We have a fund that gives vouchers for food and other emergency needs. The effect of this economic downturn isn't just here in the U.S. so we support the Lutheran World Organi-

zation that provide assistance globally fighting hunger and responding to disasters.

***Are there any ways in which you believe church and faith can help people during this downturn?***

For starters, the church needs to continue to do what it always does, proclaim the good news of Jesus Christ. It needs to refrain from being judgmental and join in the community conversation about how we can best address the circumstances in which we find ourselves. We need to assure people that a change in economic position does not mean a change in worth or importance. We are not what we do or what we have. We are brothers and sisters in Christ, children of a heavenly Father. It is being part of that family that gives us worth.

# From the Pastor...

*I was recently interviewed by our own Nicole Lenz of Ames magazine. I thought you would find the conversation interesting.*



Pastor Dave Nerdig

## ***Has Faith seen an increase in attendance since the recession has begun?***

Our attendance has been about the same as last year's but that is really saying something considering our circumstances. For much of the winter and spring, parking has been a nightmare as we are in the midst of a building project. Cars have had to squeeze in wherever they could, including on the street and in the Kmart parking lot to the east of us. It has been a bit of a challenge even getting in the door. Considering that the people who have been coming are facing sizable obstacles to worship (literally) with us they have been very faithful in their attendance.

## ***Have you seen less donations this past 6 months to a year?***

Yes and no. We are in the midst of a building project. People have been very faithful in fulfilling the financial commitments they made toward adding more space for ministry. If you take the gifts towards the building into consideration, our gross income for the past twelve months is our highest in history. General offerings, on the other hand, are down. They are the lowest we have seen in several years. Our congregational members have experienced layoffs, furloughs, and reduction in salaries. Many are finding ways to give in spite of these serious economic setbacks. Frankly, some of their stories are inspiring. Our lay leaders asked the congregation to make additional gifts toward the ministry and within a few weeks members contributed a significant amount toward making up for the decrease in giving we had experienced in the previous year. Some are skipping vacations and still contributing to ministry of Christ among us. Parents with young children somehow are finding a way to contribute. Even their children are dropping something in the plate. On one weekend Pastor Saline mentioned that the hard times had depleted the fund we use provide to care for the hungry and economically challenged. The congregation responded with small gifts that added up to thousands of dollars to be used toward that end. They are excited about what Christ is doing in our world and they want to be a part of it. They truly amaze me. I find their self-sacrifice and their longing for a compassionate response to the hurting in the world much more inspiring than any sermon I've ever

preached. Their actions are a powerful proclamation of the Gospel.

## ***How did this affect the renovations?***

Our renovations are unaffected. Pinnacle, our General Contractor, was aware of how difficult times were. Their bid came in almost a half-million dollars below where we expected bids to be. That, and our congregation's generosity means that if the congregation chose to do so they are within striking distance of paying off the new building and continuing with a mortgage that is smaller than the one we had before we started the project.

## ***Has the church had to cut down on extras lately?***

Certainly. Due to transitions in staffing, we were able to keep staffing expenses down the last twelve months. Some staff vacancies will not be filled. Staff benefits were decreased. Program and operating budgets have been cut to the bone so that we can finish the next fiscal year in a solid position, ready to face the future. We are trying to be innovative in the way we do communication and education. We are printing less and emailing more. We switched to different HVAC controls, saving us a great deal of money and still keeping us comfortable. The economic downturn has been a challenge but it has also forced us to function in more efficient and economical ways.

## ***Do you believe that church is a place for people to relax and forget about tough economic times? How so?***

That's not exactly the way I would describe it. I believe that our faith allows us to be honest about the circumstances in which we find ourselves. We don't have to run away from the realities of this world. Because we have a God who understands the reality of brokenness, powerlessness, and injustice we don't have to put on rose-colored glasses or enter into the blame game. We recognize that we are not alone in the midst of this crisis. God is here with us. God has surrounded us with a caring community that will stand beside us and encourage us to stand beside others who need our support. I don't think we so much relax as we rest. We rest in God's compassion. We find rest in the care of God's community. We rest in the hope that God is able to bring life out of the most deathly circumstances. The Apostle Paul put it best, I think. To paraphrase, when we are at our weakest, God is at His strongest. We don't forget about the tough times. We go through them together.

*From the Pastor ...continued on previous page*

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**November/December Deadline: October 12, 2009**



**Stephen Ministry**  
*Jesus said, "Take care of my sheep."*  
John 21:16b  
  
Stephen Ministry Leader:  
Diane Penningroth 402-7704



**Faith's Mission Statement**  
A family of FAITH in Christ,  
called to proclaim the FAITH,  
grow in FAITH, and live the FAITH.  
  
Evangelical Lutheran Church in America  
God's work. Our hands.

**Worship Schedule**

***September and October 2009***

|                     |                     |                     |
|---------------------|---------------------|---------------------|
| <b>September 5</b>  | 5:00 p.m.           | Spirit of Faith     |
| <b>September 6</b>  | 8:45 and 10:00 a.m. | Summer Sandals      |
| <b>September 12</b> | 5:00 p.m.           | Spirit of Faith     |
| <b>September 13</b> | 8:45 and 10:00 a.m. | Traditions of Faith |
|                     | 11:15 a.m.          | Faith Today         |
| <b>September 19</b> | 5:00 p.m.           | Spirit of Faith     |
| <b>September 20</b> | 8:45 and 10:00 a.m. | Traditions of Faith |
|                     | 11:15 a.m.          | Faith Today         |
| <b>September 26</b> | 5:00 p.m.           | Spirit of Faith     |
| <b>September 27</b> | 8:45 and 10:00 a.m. | Traditions of Faith |
|                     | 11:15 a.m.          | Faith Today         |
| <b>October 3</b>    | 5:00 p.m.           | Spirit of Faith     |
| <b>October 4</b>    | 8:45 and 10:00 a.m. | Traditions of Faith |
|                     | 11:15 a.m.          | Anniversary Program |
| <b>October 10</b>   | 5:00 p.m.           | Spirit of Faith     |
| <b>October 11</b>   | 8:45 and 10:00 a.m. | Traditions of Faith |
|                     | 11:15 a.m.          | Faith Today         |
| <b>October 17</b>   | 5:00 p.m.           | Spirit of Faith     |
| <b>October 18</b>   | 8:45 and 10:00 a.m. | Traditions of Faith |
|                     | 11:15 a.m.          | Faith Today         |
| <b>October 24</b>   | 5:00 p.m.           | Spirit of Faith     |
| <b>October 25</b>   | 8:45 and 10:00 a.m. | Traditions of Faith |
|                     | 11:15 a.m.          | Faith Today         |
| <b>October 31</b>   | 5:00 p.m.           | Spirit of Faith     |
| <b>November 1</b>   | 8:45 and 10:00 a.m. | Traditions of Faith |
|                     | 11:15 a.m.          | Faith Today         |