



THE FAITHFUL NEWS

Church Phone 812-282-6993
Pastor's Cell 260-273-1250

*"Faithful Lutherans sent by Christ to
serve God's children"*

JANUARY, 2012

From the Pastor

January gets its name from the Roman god, Janus. Janus had two faces, one that faced forward and one that faced backward. January became the first month in the Roman calendar and it is a month that reflects the god, Janus. January is a month for looking back over the past year and reflecting on the good and the bad, a time to remember and to learn from the past. But January is also a time to look to the future, to look forward and to plan for the days ahead. That is why we make resolutions in January. It has become a part of our looking forward and making plans for an uncertain future.

We will look back at our past together when we gather for our Annual Meeting on Sunday, January 22, 2012. After worship on that day we will meet in the fellowship hall and share a meal together and then reflect on the ministry we have accomplished during 2011. We will hear reports and summaries of the various ministry teams, we will look at our operating budget and our financial situation and we will hear about the ministry that has taken place. But like Janus, we will also take time to reflect on the future ministry that will take place here at Faith. So I encourage you to mark that date on your calendars and plan to join us for worship and reflection.

In the church calendar, January begins the season of Epiphany, a time when Jesus is revealed to the world to be the Son of God. On January 8, we will celebrate the Baptism of our Lord, seeing how, in his baptism, Jesus was revealed as the Son of God. The rest of the Sundays in January will focus on a different aspect of this revealing of Jesus to the world. Come and join with us as we look back on the ways Jesus was revealed as the Son of God to the world and to examine the many ways in which we are revealing Jesus as the Son of God to the world today..

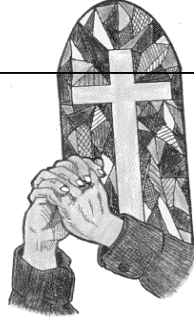
As we watch the light grow stronger each day in January, we remember that the Light of the world grows stronger each day in our lives and in our life together. May the Light of Christ shine in your life all through this January. May you see where you have been in your walk with Christ and may you look to the future, a future reflected in that same Light.

Your fellow servant in Christ,

Pastor Scott

PRAYER REQUESTS

We ask God's special care for:



Illness

- *Owen Clive, treatment for leukemia
- *Bill Arbuckle, treatment for brain tumor
- *Tricia Zummach
- *Patti Smith, recovering from cervical spine surgery
- *Mike Smith, recovering from radiation therapy for skin cancer
- *Kevin Hall, recovering at home
- *Mary Winn, Ovarian Cancer
- *Megan Holman
- *Ken Steward, VA hospital
- *Darcy Butler, surgical complications
- *Gordon McCall, recovering from a stroke

Shut-in:

- *Dorothy Clerici, Lincoln Hills Health Center
- *Norma Boehme, Westminster Village
- *Bertha Blanchard, at home
- *Edwina Andregg, Autumn Woods

If you are in need of prayer, please contact Pastor Meier at 812-282-6993 or on his cell phone (260-273-1250) or one of the prayer chain leaders: Virginia Klemens (288-8809), Vivian Smith (288-8531) or Nancy Vogt (282-2014)

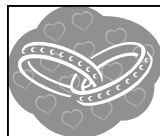
Service agencies/programs/special needs:

- *CLM
- *Eric Hall Foundation
- *Service men and women stationed at home and abroad
- *Members of Faith who have lost jobs and are seeking employment
- *Lapsed members and visitors seeking a church home.
- *American Foundation for Suicide Prevention

HAPPY ANNIVERSARY

We celebrate with these couples having anniversaries in January

- Dennis & Wendy Yellina 1/24
- Edith & Ron Woodward 1/26
- Kim & Nancy Falkenstein 1/27



God's blessings to these January birthdays

- Joyce Parish 1/1
- Cindy Holley 1/4
- Matt McCoy 1/5
- Karen Lane 1/6
- Ed Peter 1/8
- Kaitlyn Higginbotthan 1/10
- Janet Kulaga 1/10
- Felicity Hawkins 1/13
- Jessi Jones 1/13
- Bob Parish 1/17
- Wendy Yelinna 1/18
- Judy Diekhoff 1/19
- Brandon Woehrle 1/24
- Colin Hawkins 1/25
- Gordon McCall 1/25
- Michelle Campbell 1/27
- Dorothy Clerici 1/29
- Phillip Jaeger 1/31





NEWS & NOTES




Tonic Travel
Our prescription to invigorating travel
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502-802-4922 - Fred
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www.tonicrxtravel.com

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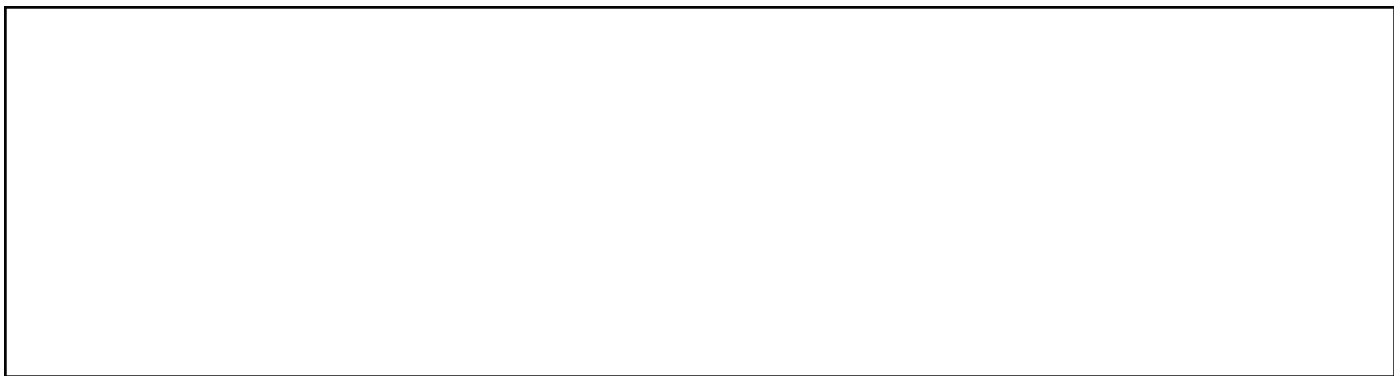
BULLETIN-BULLETIN-BULLETIN

WHAT: Mid-week fellowship/ worship opportunity

Where: Faith Lutheran Church

Time: 7:00 pm Worship Service - With Pastors' Scott & Laura Meier

Reminder: If you know of someone you would like Pastor to visit, please write their name on the White Board in Pastor's Office!!



**ARLYS JOHNSON**

Greetings from the two circles of our WELCA. We are all looking forward to Saturday, December 3rd, from 9:30 till 11:30 for fellowship, brunch and cookies. This once a year event gives us the opportunity to reach out to our shut ins with a box of Christmas cookies. Come join us for this fun time. Pastor Laura will join us and we are looking forward to spending time with her.

The Lenten dinners will be discussed during our December meeting. If we decide to host the Lenten dinners there will be a sign up sheet for people to prepare the meals. The day circle will be meet on the 14th of December. The evening circle's next meeting date will be March 6th, 2012.

Blessings,

Arllys Johnson

MEET & EAT REPORTS

TEAMS LIASONS

Thank you to everybody that took part in December's "Meet and Eat.": It is great to get input from so many people concerning the day-to-day operation and the future plans for Faith Lutheran. Just a reminder that the next "Meet and Eat" will be **January 8** and everyone is asked to bring a soup or sandwiches to share. Thanks again!

CLM

SUE NEATHAMER

Center for Lay Ministries

At the time of writing, the Christmas Basket Project is in its final stage.

The Center had over 800 family units sign up for baskets this year. About half were assigned to area churches and the remaining ones were filled at the Center.

Here at Faith we adopted seven families with 20 children. A BIG THANKYOU to all for your generous donations of food, gifts for the angels, and money to defray the cost of perishable items in the food baskets. A special thanks to our Youth Group for taking 7 angels and wrapping all the gifts.

Later this week the perishables will be purchased. On December 19th our families will pick up their food and gifts here at Faith.

Thank you Weekday Church School for having a food drive for CLM's food pantry during the holidays.

Please take time to read additional information on the Center, in a Fall Newsletter from CLM, near the bulletin board in the narthex.

CHRISTIAN EDUCATION**CAROL TAYLOR****Christian Education Newsletter Article January 2012****Weekday Church School**

We had a standing room only crowd for the Children's Christmas program on Dec.15. Yes, it literally was standing room only because there were so many parents, grandparents and friends, of our 54 students. It was wonderful to see that many people cheering these children on as they are maturing. Our school has been around long enough now that we have the children of the original students. It was great to see the grandparents (original parents) and renew friendships.

School is on Christmas break from Dec. 15 until we begin again on January 3rd.

During January our stories will teach the children about Jesus' life. How He was a baby just like they were, that He was taken to church as a small child to be given the name Jesus. They will hear that at 12 years of age He went to the temple and learned about God from His teachers, and that Jesus grew to be a man God loved. He was a man who told others about how much God loves each and every one of them.

During this month the Pre-K's will also be looking at what life was like in Israel during this time in history. No stove in the house, no cars for travel, having to carry water from a well, and sleeping on the roof of their homes were all part of their daily lives. What a different culture it was, but at the same time how similar Jesus' life was to our own. He had parents who loved Him, teachers who taught Him, and a God and Father who had plans for his life. It is just like the line in the script for the Pre-K Christmas program, "Everyone slept that first Christmas night, the sheep slept on the hill, the baby in the manger, and the doves on the rafters of the stable, but Mary and Joseph did not sleep that night, because they were wondering who this special baby was and who and what He would become." We also wonder about this. At times we still wonder who He was and is, but as we have grown we have learned to know that that Baby and His life are God's ultimate ways of telling and showing us just how much He loves and cares for us. We realize that He is our door to eternal life with God, and that He came to be the door for all people everywhere. This is the meaning of Epiphany that we celebrate on Jan 6th. It is more than just the coming of the kings to see The Baby; it is the time to celebrate God's coming to the whole world, to each everyone of us individually and for all people everywhere. May our work with these children help to make His love known in the 54 homes represented by these children at Faith Lutheran Weekday Church School. May it be spread by them to other people.

Sunday Church School

The 9:15 Children's classes have begun the second quarter of study. They will be talking Jesus life during the next several Sundays. We continue to have a steady attendance every other Sunday, with just a few on the opposite Sundays. Neither Pastor nor Cindy Holley has had a Sunday without any students. This is much better than the past several years.

The teens continue to meet at 9:15 with Tom and Kathy Hayes. Once a month they are traveling to the different churches of the South Central Conference to worship with the youth from the churches that will attend the National Lutheran Youth Organization convention in New Orleans next summer. Expect our youth to be absent on Jan. 29th as they worship at First Lutheran on Broadway in Louisville. At this point we have 8 youth registered to go to New Orleans. They are Kristina and Cheyanne Peter, Tara and Eric Miler, Matt Craven, Davis Jancosek, Jack Hayes, and Miranda Mumaw who will return to Jeffersonville to travel with our group. Cindy Holley has been hired by South Central Conference to be the co-coordinator for this trip for the whole SCC conference. She will be in charge of the pre- trip meetings, arranging for the buses, getting a behavioral covenant together, and in general making this a trip these youth will remember for the rest of their lives. Thanks to Pastor Scott and Lisa Peter for offering to be our adult chaperones for this adventure.

CHRISTIAN EDUCATION CONT'D

The two adult's classes continue to meet. There is usually around 25 plus adults in these two classes at 9:15. The Study of the Bible class has moved along the time line, and has gotten the Israelites out of Egypt, through the 40 years of wondering in the desert with Moses and Aaron, and into Canaan with Joshua. They have split God's chosen people into tribal territories. These territories were ruled by tribal leaders, overcome by neighbors, and ruled by the prophets. During January we will learn how God's people asked God to let them have a king to rule them and read about King Saul, Solomon, and King David. We are watching how the people have changed from being His people to worshipping the Gods of the nations around them. During these times things are not good with His people. They repent and try again and again to follow his teaching. This up and down pattern goes on and on like a yo-yo on a string. This is a class that helps us see and understand God's plan for his people. It is not a study of each book of the Bible, but a study of the big picture of God's people interacting with Him, following Him, and turning away from Him and his plan for his creation. All are welcome to join either adult class at any time. You did not need to start at the beginning, so put that New Years resolution into practice and attend the Sunday school class of your choice.

The Children's Church School class that meets during the service continues to be faithfully taught by Sandy, Beth, Kristina, and Megan. (Thanks to Kathy Holman for filling in for her daughter Megan during her treatment for thyroid cancer.) Last month there were anywhere from two to eight children in this class. The stories in this material follow the lessons that have been read in the first part of the service. The material makes these reading meaning for the children and then provides a craft or puzzle for them to do.

Sylvia Scott was ready with another clever craft for the children during Kids Club on "Meet and Eat" Sunday. On Dec 11th the craft was a clever 3D star ornament for their trees. This is the "meeting" scheduled for the children during the time that the parents are meeting in the committees to make plans for our church community. Thanks Sylvia. Your effort makes it possible for more people to be able to be active on the different committees of our congregation.

REMEMBER YOUR NEW YEARS RESOLUTION TO BE MORE ACTIVE IN CHURCH. See you in Sunday School OR Pastor's Bible Study class on Thursday at 1:00 for lunch or 1:30 for class. At the present time we are reading the book of John, word for word, verse for verse. With this group the class is never boring, so come join us!

FINANCIAL SECRETARY**BETH LANDIS****HAPPY NEW YEAR!!**

As 2012 begins I pray that we continue to support our Church not only in its financial needs but in all its needs. Wonder how you can support your Church??? Join the Choir, volunteer in our Weekday Church school, teach a Sunday of Sunday school class, help with VBS, join in meet & eat, come enjoy WELCA with the ladies of the Church, Have fun in the men's club, be an usher, be an assistant, sit on council (we will have a few open spots!) and the list can go on!

I would like to thank everyone in their giving's for 2011 and making my job a little easier to do for the Church. I have enjoyed serving for the past few months and look forward to the next year with your continued support!

The following is a summary of contributions for November and December 2011:

November 2011 Giving

11-6 \$2956.00

11-13 \$2728.79

11-20 \$2479.01

11-27 \$2186.25

December 2011 Giving

12-4 \$3755.00

12-11 \$2929.00

12-18 \$2958.50

Respectively submitted by Beth Landis, Financial Secretary

PROPERTY

DAN DIEKHOFF

DECEMBER PROPERTY REPORT

Council president moved us out of the kitchen. It was a welcome relief from our past meetings because there was too much heat in the kitchen. We actually were given a table and with the "meet and eat" venue it was like eating out at a smorgasbord.

The first item of business was to get the concrete pillars out of the yard. The choice was to haul them out or just get them out of sight.

Since we seem to have a number of lights out in the valance area of the fellowship hall the decision was made to replace with LED lighting serving the same purpose. The old fixtures will not be taken out at this time. The new lighting may not outshine the old, but will perform as well without hitting our budget out of the ball park.

We find out that some of the ceiling lights and other bathroom features have been without proper attention. Some of the committee will be going out of their way to correct these problems.

Never let it be said that this male dominated committee is out of touch with good decor and aesthetic values. We are taking a long range look at the impression our members and guests receive when they come through the main entrance doors for worship. It may have some small degree of effect when we go out of those same doors to do ministry in the real world.

Dan Diekhoff

LIBRARY NEWS

TRISH PERRY

As I sit here writing this waiting for Mom while she is in choir practice, I want to say first a big thank you to our small but strong choir they have been great as always and I hope everyone else has enjoyed their songs of the season as much as I have (and I get the practices too) I don't think you all hear this enough.

I would also like to thank all the library shelf elves there is no way I can do this job without you all and I mean that very much thank you all so much. Also, the church council and all the other volunteers that go unnoticed thank you all so much our church would not be what it is without you and your silent service. We cannot say it enough thank you!

While I'm at it I would like to thank the Rife's for their recent donation of a copy of Luther's Small Catechism written all in German, what a treasure, thank you so much. Also, we will add very soon a copy of "The Help", yes that The Help, so if you've seen the movie here is your chance to read the book, and it a good one. I was one of the few adult books I made time for this year (thank goodness it was before it became popular and there wasn't a wait list at the library yet).

Someone else I would like to thank and it might surprise him a bit is Brandon Woehrle. In case his proud family hasn't told you yet he graduated recently, but what you might not know is he graduated with no debt. He is my hero, he taught me that it is possible to someday get my degree taking one class at a time (and paying for them), and to just never give up. Brandon, I won't, thank you for the pep talk I needed it.

So, as a thanks to everyone I would like to share a part of one of my favorite Christmas songs. I can listen to Christmas music all year round and often do, just ask my husband. This is the chorus of Amy Grant's "I Need A Silent Night":

I need a silent night, a holy night
To hear an angel voice through the chaos and the noise
I need a midnight clear, a little peace right here
To end this crazy day with a silent night

It usually reminds me to slow down, but this year like most, December has flown by and I was totally shock when I looked up this morning and saw all four blue candles of the advent wreath being lit. Now don't get me wrong, I didn't get wrapped up in the commercialism, shopping or any of that stuff, nope I got caught up in life. It has not only been a rough month but a very rough six month for our family and it will still take much more time for the wounds to heal and the new licks to get fixed, but it would be nice if the licks would stop coming, at least for a while. So I would like to thank everyone who prayed and continues to pray for my family, it is a rough ride but we are making it through with our faith and our faith family. Thank you to all and may you and your family's have a silent night and a very peaceful New Year.

Faith Lutheran Website

www.flcjeff.org

Do you know who your council members are? Do you know how to get in contact with them? Do you know what committees they represent? Go to www.flc.org and click on the *council link*.

.....

Need something published on our website? Email rn barr@sbcglobal.net or call 812.246-4056 and we'll get it uploaded ASAP.

KIDS CLUB:

Want to participate in FLC monthly meet and eat but have a child or children in 5th grade or younger? Don't know what to do with your youngsters so you can meet and eat? WELL....Kids club is the place to be!

Each month we will have crafts or other activities such as a game or stories. We may even take a hike, weather permitting. Activities are age appropriate and supervised with the purpose of having FUN.

I am happy to report that during Novembers Meet and Eat we had 3children in Kids Club and we had lots of fun making turkeys for Thanksgiving and foam crosses to remind us of what we are thankful for. So go ahead grown-ups meet away, we "Kids" have im- portant business to do too.

Yours in Christ

Sylvia Scott



PLOT UPCOMING EVENTS

PLOT is sponsoring the Superbowl Party, Sunday, February 5 times to be announced.

PLOT is also planning a "Guess Who's Coming to Dinner" social event in March. Time and date to be announced. Thanks.

YOUTH INFORMATION

Faith Youth Financial Report**Noisy Offering**

11-16-11	Balance Forward		\$161.81
11-20-11	Blackston Bowl 6 youth @ \$8.00 = \$48.00		<u>113.81</u>
12-16-11	Deposit Oct. offering	\$28.21	\$142.02

Youth Account

1-1-11	Balance Forward		\$6342.25
11-14-11	Turkey dinner profit \$501.00		6843.25
11-14-11	Hot Dog lunch profit for Angel tree \$201.00		7044.25
11-27-11	Mary Ellen Zimmerman Angel Tree #293 \$100		6944.25
11-27-11	Kristina Peter Angel Tree #294 \$100		6844.25
11-27-11	Kathy Hayes Angel Tree #295 \$100		6744.25
11-27-11	Sheila Craven Angel Tree #296 \$100		6644.25
11-27-11	Sammi McCoy Angel Tree #297 \$100		6544.25
11-27-11	Joshua Landis Angel Tree #298 \$100		6444.25
11-27-11	Karen Miller Angel Tree #299 \$100		6344.25
12-13-11	Deposit Thrivent 2 nd half Angel Tree \$250.00		6594.25
12-13-11	Last of desserts in the park \$102.00		\$6696.25
12-13-11	Balance forwarded		\$6696.25

Important Dates Dec. 25– Feb 4.

Dec. 25 NO Sunday school worship at 10:30

Jan. 01 NO Sunday school worship at 10:30

Jan. 08 Meet and eat, Youth meeting to plan youth Sunday and discuss

Possible ski trip with St John and Ascension on Feb. 4 - Council

22 Youth Sunday The youth will do the worship service. This years seniors Will C., Sammi M., Kristina P. and Matt C. Will have sermons.

Annual Meeting meet is provided for lunch, bring a dish to share. Council Meeting

29 Our youth go to First Lutheran for SCC worship and New Orleans planning

Feb. 04 Possible ski trip to Paoli with St John and Ascension Lutheran

Lift ticket and equipment for 8 hours \$48.00 --no rental \$33.00.

17 Possible Broom ball date @ Iceland with SCC youth

OWLS-EVANGELISM/OUTREACH

Virginia Klemens

OWLS

Hopefully the OWLS had a happy holiday hoot at the Klemens on December 17th...Santas, games and appetizers were on the agenda for the day.

The next gathering of the OWLS will be on February 15, 2012 at church. We will gather at noon, share a pitch-in lunch and play games to celebrate Valentine's day.

Thanks to Dorothy McCall for the OWL rug she shared at the December Meet and Eat. Nice to have a place to land after all our flying around.

The OWLS treasury contains \$77 which we will keep in reserve and perhaps add to with a yard sale in the spring. A yard sale and further decisions about Concerts in the Park dessert sales will be on the agenda for 2012.

Remember our shut-ins with cards, calls and visits. If you have an idea for a service project contact Virginia and Dick Klemens or Arlys and Dennis Johnson.

Give a Hoot! Join us at Meet and Eat!

EVANGELISM/OUTREACH

Dan Diekhoff, Lyle Gernand, Arlys Johnson, John and Carol Taylor, Virginia Klemens and Pastor Meier attended the December 1 meeting of the committee.

Dan presented several proposed additions to the Visitor Brochure being developed. Ideas for postcard photos was solicited. Do you have a particular photo idea representing the church that you would like to have included on a postcard? Talk to Dan or Rick Barr and share your idea. Thanks to those who submitted revised text for groups represented in the church.

Members of the congregation who would like to be Church Ambassadors are asked to contact Virginia Klemens. Responsibilities will include a monthly commitment, greeting, tours of the church, follow-up visits or phone contact and facilitating pastoral contact. Church Ambassadors will be the liaison to visitors to Faith.

Discussion of the effectiveness of the Council shepherding plan was referred to Council for advice/attention.

The committee will meet again January 19, 2012 at 2:30 p.m. at church.

Please forward ideas or questions or comments to Virginia Klemens.

GIRL SCOUTS

KATE SCOTT



Happy New Year from Girl Scout Troop 1243!

We greet 2012 with open arms and Cookie Order Forms! Yes folks, the long wait is over. Girl Scout Cookie season has arrived! If you are craving some Thin-Mints or would like to try something new- come see one of our resident scouts to place an order! The money we are raising will help support our camp out in the spring along with paying for badges, pins and local field trips. So don't mark GS Cookies off of your *New-Year's resolution* list! They make excellent party treats, freeze well and make nice gifts! For more information about the GS Cookie program, see the excerpt from our National Web site!

All cookie-talk aside, our troop appreciates your continued support. Last month we collected gift cards to support CLM for Christmas gifts in lieu of exchanging presents. I was very proud of the high level of participation from my scouts and the support we were able to show in return. We also completed our first aid badges and Daisy Safety Award pins plus numerous individual badges and patches! We will continue to write to our adopted grandparents and keep you posted as to the 100-year Anniversary celebrations happening in and around our community!

Your faithful leaders-

Kate



What Can A Cookie Buy?

The Experience of a Lifetime



Girl Scouts of the USA is the premier leadership organization for girls. The \$700 million Girl Scout Cookie Program is the largest girl-led business in the country and generates immeasurable benefits for girls, their councils and communities nationwide.

Girls set cookie goals to support their chosen activities for the year, to fund community service and leadership projects, to attend summer camp, to travel to destinations near and far and to provide events for girls in their community.

Why Girl Scout Cookies?

The activity of selling cookies is directly related to our purpose of helping all girls realize their full potential and become strong, confident, and resourceful citizens.

Girl Scouts learn life skills and are able to realize their goals—and they have fun! Customers get a great product and get to support girls in their own community. All of the proceeds support Girl Scouting in the local community

Learning Life Skill: Through the Girl Scout Cookie Program girls develop five essential skills:

- Goal setting
- Decision making
- Money management
- People skills
- Business ethics

Many successful business women today say they got their start selling Girl Scout Cookies:



“DID YOU KNOW”

Jane Lakes is a Hair Stylist-



**The Palms Salon
Jane Lakes
604 Providence Way
Clarksville, IN
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**Jane Lake’s husband owns
A body shop**

**Phil Lakes Body Shop
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812-280-1966**

**Elles Salon
Kari Smith
Full Time Stylist**

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New Albany, IN
47150

502-296-0329
812-944-3030
Walk-Ins welcome



Kari Smith, Patti Smith’s daughter is a Hairstylist. She is offering 10% discount to anyone who mentions seeing the “Did You Know” ad in the newsletter. She has the very popular ‘feather extensions’ available in the salon for sale and placement. Kari offers full hair services as well as manicures and pedicures. May call for appointment and walk-ins are always welcome

If you want to participate in this information page, please fill out the form below: (duplicate as needed) or e-mail this information to Patti Smith at pss56@yahoo.com

Name _____ Phone _____

Service that I am wanting to advertise _____

EDITORIAL

DAN DIEKHOFF

THE REST OF THE WORLD IS WRONG --ONLY GRANDPA HAS IT RIGHT

"DEAD END ROAD"

For all my arrogance, excuse me for challenging the wisdom of the world. There are some areas where the world sends messages that may be confusing to young minds. Grandpa feels compelled to address these issues whenever the opportunity arises. If there are other grandpas or grandmas out there who wish to challenge my wisdom or add to it feel free to add an editorial of your own

If there is a world message that you see needs addressing feel free to ask grandpa at dandwood-king@insightbb.com. It is hard to protect my grandchildren from all the corrupt thinking, ideas, and practices of a world gone to the dogs. For example: The world has a prolific abundance of "DEAD END" signs on our roads and tributaries. The world has got it wrong.

When I went to visit my granddaughters I was confronted by just such a sign. This foreboding warning caused some degree of consternation. Is this a sign for me or my car? What accident or evil fate lies before me? I glance at the fuel gauge and a couple of other electronic measurements for some sign of doom. What makes this road terminal? I was sure it led to my granddaughters' home. Why worry, I conclude. Death seldom is defined by warning signs and specific circumstances.

"You must take down that sign!" I suggested. I encouraged my granddaughters to see that there must be some mistake. "I find no death here. Everyone and everything is very much alive," I said. "You shouldn't take that so seriously," they begged. "But the world has got it wrong!" I protested. "Have you ever heard of a sign that said ALIVE END"?

The world talks this way about all the highways of life. The big focus is on birth and young life. People try to put life on hold, or at least shiver at the prospects of a dead end road when they see those ominous terminal signs in a mid-life crisis. There are no "DEAD ENDS" on the highways of life. What we have here are destiny roads.

Those who crucified Jesus thought this was His dead end road. This was not HIS destination. It was part of His destiny to take on the sinfulness of man. That stood in the way of His ultimate destination of being with His Father in heaven. He told His followers the same thing. "He that believes in me shall never die!" Some of us older folks feel the same way. Don't feel sorry for us when you see we are going pretty slow down the road or nearing a point where we will have to make a turn. This is all part of our destiny.

It is part of our destiny to be faced with "U" turns, detours, or slow traffic. All of this requires mature understanding that our road in this world is always a destiny road. Unexpected things happen on our journey -- even expected things like a bridge that is closed at the end of the road for six months. Patience and perseverance will be needed to ready the destination that the Father has created for us.

Grandpa thinks we need a few more destiny signs to remind us of our alternatives. And only Grandpa has got it right. We already have a destination, and it isn't a "DEAD END."

PRESIDENT'S REPORT**LYLE GERNAND**

Greetings Faith (and Faithful) people:

Happy New Year! I don't want to believe that it is that time again, but the calendar tells me that it is indeed 2012. People say that time flies when you're having fun. If that is so, I must be having a whale of a good time.

For the last two years I have measured time by these monthly articles for the Newsletter. I would write one and then think that it would be a whole month before I had to write another article. About three days later, Patti would be reminding me that another article was due. I don't know what happened to all the days in between. Anyway, I now find myself writing my last article and also find myself reflecting on the last two years.

I have decided not to seek re-election to the Council President's office for the coming year. There are a couple of reasons for this decision. Perhaps the major one is that I find myself putting things off that I need to do until the last minute. I have always been somewhat of a procrastinator, but it is to the point where I feel that some things are more of a chore than a joy to do. It then becomes time for someone with fresh ideas and enthusiasm to take over. Another reason is the fact that Peg and I would like to travel a bit more in the next few years. Not being President of Faith Lutheran will certainly free up some time for that purpose.

It would have been a lot harder for me to make this decision were it not for the fact that we are blessed with a great current council and the promise of some outstanding new members after the annual meeting. There is no doubt in my mind that someone will come forward to serve our congregation with great joy and enthusiasm.

Now for some reflections. It has been my great privilege to serve as Council President for the last two years. I sought and received excellent advice from many of you during my tenure without which I could not have functioned. I would also thank past and present council members for their devotion to duty and their willingness to help make our monthly meetings not only functional but also fun events.

The staff at Faith Lutheran is one of the best things to happen in the last two years because I gained a closer relationship with all of them. Dedication, hard work, willingness to help and go the extra mile are things that describe our staff. I am sure there were times when Pastor Scott and Patti dreaded seeing me drive into the parking lot. They knew that I would be needing help or advice or both. Pastor Scott has been so helpful to me. When we wanted to try a worship insert, he put it together. When we wanted to try a Wednesday evening worship service, he enlisted Pastor Laura and between the two of them, put together a beautiful evening service. I am inspired by his sermons and have learned more from his Thursday Bible study than from any class I have ever attended.

What can I say about Patti? Through all her health problems, these last two years, she has managed to keep the office and all the things that are passed to her (many of which are not nor ever have been in her job description) over the years in order and on time. She has helped me and bailed me out of trouble time after time. Both of these people were there for me and I thank them both so much.

Next on the list is Kathy Hayes. I had no idea how much she did around our church until I started hanging around. She does things that go completely unnoticed but would look so bad if they were not done. It was always a joy to spend time with her and her wonderful helper, Lucy. Thank you, Kathy.

PRESIDENT'S REPORT CONT'D

LYLE GERNAND

I used to think that Barb Brewster was “just” our organist/choir director. Was I ever wrong. She does so many other things around Faith that I can’t even imagine what our church would do without her. One of her most valuable assets that I came to count on was her knowledge of the history of Faith and its members. She seemed to know everybody and their extended families that had ever belonged to our church since the 1950’s. What a gift that is.

And then there is our volunteer staff person and my personal hero, Carol Taylor. She is so amazing to me. She wears so many different hats that I often wonder how she keeps it all straight. She has helped me so much with not only my job but also with her knowledge of the workings of the church. She was always a fount of good advice and despite always being on the run, would take a minute or two to talk to me about some issue or other. When I would feel pressured or overloaded, all I had to do was think about her and all that she has on her plate and things always would be better for me. Thank you, Carol.

And then there is our Faithful members. We have the greatest church family ever. It is such joy for me to see all the familiar faces every Sunday. What a blessing to not only be able to hear the Word of God, but also to be surrounded by a loving family while doing it. But – a word of warning! I just read an article in the Lutheran Magazine about the hazards of being so comfortable as a family that we forget what our mission as a people of God should be. Let us all work at not being satisfied with our wonderful Faith family but remember that God has called each and every one of us to be His disciples and to spread the Good News of Jesus Christ to all peoples.

Thank you all for your help and patience these last two years and may God bless you and keep you in the year 2012.

In His service,
Lyle

NEWSLETTER

JANUARY
2012



SERVING AT FAITH FOR THE MONTH OF JANUARY

USHERS: FRED & TAMI CZERWONKA, BETH & CHUCK LANDIS

ALTAR GUILD: BETH LANDIS AUDIO: BILL HOLMAN

FINANCIAL ASSISTANT: LYLE GERNAND

WEEKLY ASSISTANTS:

<u>SUNDAY</u>	<u>ASSISTANT</u>	<u>ACOLYTE</u>	<u>CRUCIFER</u>	<u>SOCIAL</u>	<u>GREETERS</u>
Jan 1	Beth Landis	Youth	Youth	Coffee Only	Landis Family
Jan 8	Virginia Klemens	Youth	Youth	Meet & Eat	Czerwonka Family
Jan 15	Carol Taylor	Youth	Youth	Volunteer	Barr Family
Jan 22	Youth Sunday	Youth	Youth	Annual Meeting	Youth
Jan 29	Ilene Bush	Youth	Youth	Vogt	Vogt Family