

MAY 2011 NEWSLETTER

THE AMAZING RACE!

“So Peter and the other disciple started for the tomb. Both were running, but the other disciple outran Peter and reached the tomb first.” St. John 20:3-4

Greetings in the Risen Lord! “Both were running,” I think they were racing. This is the Gospel of John. I hope you read a lot of John during Lent and you are better able to answer these two questions I posed for you at the beginning of Lent:

- What does John say about Jesus?
- What does Jesus say about himself?

Alright, back to the race, the “other disciple outran Peter” and got to the tomb first. It’s John’s Gospel, so who is the unidentified disciple? You’re right! It is probably John, “the one Jesus loved.” Yet here is the twist, Peter arrives second but guess who barges first into the tomb. Remember, it’s John’s Gospel. Gottcha! It’s bold, brash Peter.

Holy Week is a race narrative. We ran into Jerusalem on Palm Sunday, we hurry to the Upper Room, we, in sorrow and with caution scurry to the Place of the Skull. The race seems over at Golgatha. But then comes the stunning news, Christ is Risen and the race to the Broken Tomb is on!

There is a series on T.V. called “The Amazing Race.” While I have never seen one episode, the commercials always look intriguing.

Our human journey is a race, is it not?

Hurry, hurry, hurry, deadlines, wow is it Sunday again? I always feel a bit on race mode, especially during this past couple of months. I thank so many of you who have been making special efforts to be helpful in this time of one Pastor. Mike Shoup and our LYF parents, Paul & Toni Kenefick-Aschoff with JYM, Nick Hill in Midweek, Our Board of Education and our Board of Elders, thanks to all of you.

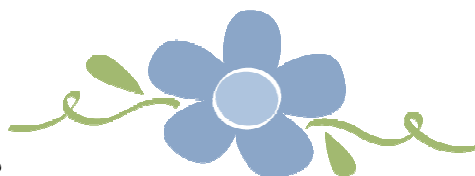
Paul uses the word race a few times in his writings. Here is my favorite:

“I have fought the good fight, I have finished the race, I have kept the faith. Now there is in store for me the crown of righteousness, which the Lord, the righteous judge, will award to me on that day—and not only to me, but also to all who have longed for his appearing.” 2 Timothy 4:7-8

Lent has generated a lot of generosity for many people beyond our Faith Oasis. I thank all of you for seeing beyond yourselves to the vast mission field in the midst of the Amazing human race.

God bless your journey, your race! The Lord be with you!

Racing with you,



BAGELS & JELLY

The Board of Stewardship wish to say :

THANK YOU

To the whole parish as we put up the \$2,400,000 grape cluster on May 8.

Following our 8:20 service, and before our 9:45 Voters meeting, Bagels and Jelly will be served by the Board of Stewardship as a small way to say thank you for your large generosity. So stay after the early service or come early for the Voters Assembly if you normally attend the 11:00 service.



VOTERS ASSEMBLY
MAY 8, 2011

The primary pieces of business are:

- The Election of Officers, and
- Hopefully a recommendation of a name(s) for the calling of a new Associate Pastor.

\$2,400,000.00

Perhaps you remember the grape vines appeared in the Narthex as we started our "Building Together in Faith" emphasis that would lead to the ground breaking, the building and then the Dedication of our Christian Family Life Center.

\$100,000

Our Fulfillment Committee made 24 laminated signs: one for each \$100,000. It started at \$100,000 and moved to \$2,400,000.

We made a big deal over each one and we added a grape cluster for each one.. It was at the \$1,000,000. that we broke ground. We felt if we would hit the mark of

\$2,400,000

A lot would be accomplished.

It has been. On May 8 we will put up the final marker. As of 4-18-11 we have received \$2,405,934.76 in gifts, interest, and estate gifts.

What has this accomplished?

- Together we built an attractive, functional, and practical addition.

- We borrowed only \$1,000,000 from the South Dakota District Church Extension Fund.
- We paid back, quickly, a short-term \$56,000 note at Bank West to finish the project properly.
- We have already made 28 advanced payments, saving \$131,011.89 in interest.
- We have made remarkable progress on the second floor. Can you remember just a year ago in January you looked upstairs and there was nothing.
- We finished the landscaping of the new addition with grass, trees, shrubs, and flowers. The campus looks beautiful.
- We also, with no expense whatsoever to the parish, finished Grace Plaza.

So, thank you. We put up the last grape cluster with a remarkable sense of joy!

"Thus far..."!!

FAITH LUTHERAN'S MISSION TEAM TO HONG KONG

Faith Lutheran will host a special event for all members on Sunday, May 15. This event will serve as a warm thank you for our members generous support for this year's mission team to Hong Kong. Nick Hill, Jeff Logan, Jared Doud, Pastor Urbach and the Board of Missions will be hosting an **International Coffee Bar** between services. We will serve Annette Hill's prized homemade scones as well as Jared Doud's *Famous Canned Cowboy Donuts*. The mission team will provide a power point pres-

entation on their amazing experiences in Hong Kong. Please come and participate in this historic event.

Information will also be given on plans to send another mission team to Hong Kong from Faith Lutheran in 2012. A sign-up will be available for anyone considering a call to serve and share the Gospel with the Chinese youth. An evening meeting on May 15 at 7:00 pm in the CFLC will be held for those expressing interest to learn more.

Greetings from Faith Lutheran Daycare.

Easter has come and we hope for spring! The kids have been enjoying the outdoors when we have had the nice days.

Daycare applied for the Backpack grant through the Department of Game Fish and Parks, and we were awarded two backpacks full of fun outdoor activities for the children to do this spring and summer. This will be a fun and educational time for the children.

Daycare had another pajama party on Thursday April 21st, and Monday April 25th we had our Easter Party and Easter Egg Hunt for the children.

Current enrollment at daycare is 60 children. We currently have 16 total employees which includes full time, part time, and substitutes.

Daycare can always use donations of toys, books, puzzles, outdoor play equipment, Kleenex, paper, colors and art supplies.

Daycare employees would like to thank the Board of Early Education for the movie cards that were given in appreciation for what we do.

I hope everyone enjoyed the Easter holiday and had a great time with friends and family.

Your friend in Christ,

Noell Uhler

FLDC Director



2011 FAITH LUTHERAN FOOD DRIVE - IT'S A RECORD!

Faith Lutheran collected 2,026 food and paper products for the Pierre-Ft. Pierre Food Pantry in March. That was a whopping 40% increase over our donations last year, and is a record, surpassing our previous high set in 2008.

In addition, members of the congregation wrote checks totaling \$455 to the Pantry in conjunction with the Food Drive - nearly four times the amount of cash donations received last year.

On April 1, a volunteer crew from the church quickly and efficiently hauled 115 boxes from the church to the Pantry, which is now housed at the Boys and Girls Club. The agency relocated from the City Auditorium in late March, and Faith was the first group to deliver a large donation of food to the new site.

Faith Lutheran has one of the largest food drives for the Pierre-Ft. Pierre Food Pantry each year, so the congregation's generosity is greatly appreciated.

A big thanks to everyone who lent a hand with this important project!

Among the items collected this year:

- 328 cans of soup and boxes of soup mix
- 168 cans of tuna, chicken, salmon and other canned meat
- 152 cans of vegetables
- 130 boxes of macaroni and cheese
- 108 boxes of Hamburger Helper, Tuna Helper and Chicken Helper
- 103 cans of fruit
- 101 boxes of cereal and oatmeal
- 62 cans of beans
- 59 bottles, cans and packages of juice, coffee and other beverages
- 58 boxes and bags of noodles
- 57 jars and boxes of baby food
- 45 cans and jars of spaghetti sauce
- 37 boxes of potato mixes
- 37 boxes of crackers
- 36 boxes and bags of rice meals
- 35 packages of paper towels, toilet paper and other paper products
- 32 jars of peanut butter
- 31 boxes of cake, brownie and dessert mixes
- 24 cans of spaghetti, lasagna, ravioli and other pasta meals
- 18 bags of flour
- 16 bags of sugar



LISA (ADAMS) HILLER CANCER BENEFIT

Lisa has been diagnosed with lung and pancreatic cancer. To help defray traveling & treatment costs we are having a raffle for the following:

- Prize #1 Benelli M2 26" Camo Barrell 12 Gauge shotgun
- Prize #2 32" LCD Vizio HDTV

Call Sandy @ 224-1773 or Karen @ 224-2734 for tickets.

There will be a benefit @ Pizza Ranch on May 18th from 5:00-8:00 pm. The drawing for the raffle tickets will be held at the Pizza Ranch. Winners need not be present to win. Thank you.

The Adams & Hiller families.

MEN'S FELLOWSHIP



So much fun, we are going to do it again!

Men please join us for Men's Fellowship Monday, May 2 at 7:00 pm. We will

again play some games of corn hole. Strange name for the old fashioned bean bag throw. Bring a snack to share, beverage will be provided.

The LLL State Dart Ball tournament in Sioux Falls in March saw a men's team from Faith for the second year in a row thanks to the efforts of John Barber. The team won a game then lost to the eventual champs, Immanuel of Dimock.

Official Acts

Baptisms

- Mallory Jenine Lehrkamp 4-3-11*
- Aubrey Ann Stewart 4-3-11*
- Ajey William Rutherford 4-16-11*
- Jace Avery Mancuso 4-17-11*
- Cortana Jade Mancuso 4-17-11*
- Tenley Kay Mattheis 4-23-11*

New Members

- Jessica Lammler*
- Christine Lehrkamp*
- Bill & Kimberlee & children*
- Mark & Sheryl Nielsen*
- Mandy, Jenna, & Samantha Nielsen*
- Todd & Danaca Schettler*

Memorial Service

- Peggy Lynn Sundahl 4-13-11*

LYF Meetings We will meet next Wednesday, April 27 and all the Wednesdays of May.

A huge thanks to the youth and parents of the LYF for:

- * the Lenten coffees
 - * the Good Friday Potato Dinner
 - * the Easter Breakfast
- We need to plan for our Seniors to get their hand print in the Great Room.
 - Looks like a summer trip in July. Stay tuned!
 - The kids hauled aluminum cans on Good Friday, thanks everyone for supporting the LYF.
 - May 15 – LYF/Elder Pizza Event at 5:00 Sunday, May 15. The Board of Elders is providing a pizza dinner for all our LYF youth to say thanks for Acolyting. At 4:00 the Elders will train our newly confirmed to be Acolytes, they then ask them to join the other LYF kids for pizza at 5:00.

JYM There is no JYM planned for May, but June brings JYM aged kids three big opportunities:

- Crazy Horse – Friday, June 3rd through Saturday, June 4. We will be leaving the church at 4:00 Friday. Bring a sack lunch for your dinner. That evening the group will attend the lighting ceremony at Mt. Rushmore and stay in a local church. Saturday morning off to the Volks March at Crazy Horse and walk out on the “arm” of this massive rock sculpture. Breakfast and lunch provided on Saturday, then head home, back by late afternoon. Paul & Toni Kenefick-Aschoff will head up this event and take the church vans. The cost of \$20.00 covers it all! A sign-up sheet is now on the Narthex Information table.
- VBS – Sunday, June 13 through Thursday, June 16. Please consider being a helper with VBS.
- Camp Minneboji – Sunday, June 19 through Saturday, June 25. Registration forms are now at the church.

ACOLYTES



May 1

Early: Wylin Baker, Carly Niemann
Late: Courtney Brandt, Alex Neyhart

May 8

Early: Kaci Deal, Rachel Hartmann
Late: Alyssa Bump, Andrew Leif

May 15

Early: Brandon Berheim, Whitney King
Late: Caitlin Bolte, Reed Lindbloom

May 22

Early: Morgan Deis, Maranda Olson
Late: Colton Graves, Caden Overturf

May 29

Early: LeAndra Hoefener, Nicole Smith
Late: Matt Green, Molly Tschetter

PRESCHOOL NEWS

I pray that you all had a blessed Easter – it is what we are all about! Telling the little ones that Jesus loves them, died for them and that one day they will live in heaven with Him! What a privilege and responsibility that is for me as a teacher. Thank you for all your support and prayers throughout this year and in the many past years. I started here in 1986 and I now have many children of former preschool children in our program. That is such a joy!

As we wind down the year, we will be reviewing all the numbers, shapes, letters and colors from the past months. We will be heading to the SD Discovery center again this year in early May.

Sadly, we will no longer be going to the Terry and Mary Ness farm, as they have family responsibilities that hinder their con-

tinuing to give tours. We have been going there for 25 years, too, so it is sad to leave that part of our program behind, but we are very grateful for all the time they have given to us over these many years.

A big thank you to the SD Game, Fish and Parks Dept. for their educational grant for our children called “Growing Up Wild”. We received two packets full of many items for children to use to explore the outdoors and learn about nature. Lynn Spomer was our contact person for that – thank you, Lynn!

Our year ends with an all school picnic on Friday, May 13 at noon at Griffin Park. If the weather is not nice, we will be able to use our new Christian Life Center for the lunch and diploma presen-

tation.

A new first this year – we are already full for next fall and have a waiting list! If you want to get on the waiting list, please contact the church office 224-2216 or myself at 224-6574. This has never happened in all the years that I have been here and I am amazed!

If anyone has a used computer that they would be willing to donate to the preschool, please let the office know, or contact me. Thank you.

Have a wonderful spring and a warm ☺ summer! God bless each of you for your support in so many ways.

In Christ,

Jan Larson, Director/teacher