

Voice of Faith

July 2017

Faith Lutheran Church, ELCA
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Web site: www.faithseward.org
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Worship Sundays at 9:15



Quilts for Camp Carol Joy Holling Auction



Nebraska Brass

JULY

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
AA meets weekly at Faith Lutheran on Sundays at 7pm and Tuesdays at 7:30pm						1
2 9:15am-Worship 10:45 Bible Study	3	4  OFFICE CLOSED	5 1-5 Faithful Piecemakers 1pm Congo Life	6	7	8
9 9:15am-Worship - Ronan Heyen Baptism 10:45 Bible Study	10	11 NO Council Meeting	12 1-5 Faithful Piecemakers	13	14 11:45am-Seward Local Lunch at Valentino's	15
16 9:15am-Worship God's Work - Our Hands 10:15—Fellowship Pine Ridge Mission Report	17	18 9-4 WIC Clinic at Faith	19 1-5 Faithful Piecemakers	20	21 6pm– Family Game Night with Pizza Newsletter items due	22
23 9:15am-Worship 10:45 Bible Study	24	25	26 1-5 Faithful Piecemakers	27	28	29 9:30am– CCJH Quilt Auction
30 9:15am-Worship - Christmas in July 10:45 Bible Study	31					



Experience the Help, Hope, and Love of Jesus Christ

The Voice of Faith

Ordinary Time

So here we are, Lent, Easter, Pentecost, and even Holy Trinity Sunday are past. So where are we now, in the Church year? We noticed the colors changed from white (with a flash of red for just one day) to green, so it must be a new season, right? But what is this season, and what is it about?

Advent is about the coming of the Messiah, the savior of the world. Christmas is about God coming to live with us, as one of us, being born as a baby. Epiphany (and the season after) is about Jesus being revealed to the world (including the Gentiles, non-Israelites) and who God is revealed to be in Jesus. Lent is about what it means for this God in Jesus, to go to a cross, to die, like us, with us, for us. Easter is about God's victory over death, and thus over sin, over everything that is killing us. On the Pentecost of Easter we celebrate the gift God gives us of God's very Spirit, in us to give us life, a new life, different from the one we follow when we follow ourselves. On Holy Trinity Sunday, the first Sunday after Pentecost, we celebrate who God reveals God's self to be in the mystery of three different "persons" – God the Father or God in Heaven, God the Son or the Word of God, and God the Spirit or the Life or Breath of God.

And then, it's all over, right? I mean, we're only half way through the calendar, so we've still got a lot of time to fill, but what else is there? Is that why we call it "Ordinary Time?" It's not really about God anymore, it's just filler? So maybe there's no good reason to come to Church during the summer, since it's just "Ordinary Time."

On one hand, this seems reasonable. The season after Pentecost is technically not even a season, in the way the other seasons (Advent, Christmas, Lent, and Easter) are. It's just the time after a season (Pentecost is the last day of the season of Easter). Sometimes we even call it the time between the seasons. The real name of this time is "Ordinary Time," but maybe not for the reason you would imagine.

When it comes to numbers, there are two kind: numerals and ordinals. Numerals specify a quantity, like one, two, three, and so on. Ordinals specify an order, like first, second, third, and so on. As mundane a reason as it might sound, the time after Pentecost is called "Ordinary Time" because it is not a season, and we simply name the Sundays by their count (ordinal) after the end of the previous season: e.g. Second Sunday after Pentecost, etc.

But on the other hand, to see this season as like a long break in the Church Year would not only be to misunderstand, but to risk missing some great opportunities to nurture your faith, to recognize God's Spirit within you, and to draw closer to God and God's Kingdom. Whereas about half the year we spend talking about the birth, the death, and the resurrection of Jesus, all very important, the other half of the year, HALF THE YEAR, we spend listening to the teachings of Jesus to his disciples, who weren't just those who lived 2000 years ago, but who are us, still living today. The amount of the Church Year dedicated to the teachings of Jesus is comparable to the rest of the year combined. That tells us a lot about how important it is.

So far this year, you may have noticed an emphasis on Jesus' teaching his disciples to "go," to be his disciples by doing what he does. This is the mission of the church, the Body of Christ, and is what gives our lives purpose and meaning. That's important stuff! Ordinary Time may be the time between the seasons, but it is definitely not a time to dismiss, as what Jesus teaches his disciples is always anything but ordinary.

Pastor Rob

Sharing God's Bounty

Checking on our Job as Stewards

A young boy walks into a small drug store and asks the druggist, "Could I use the telephone?" The druggist replies, "You certainly can," and shows him where the telephone is. The boy calls a grocery store and asks the man who answers the phone, "Is your grocery store looking for someone to stock the shelves?" The man says, "No, we already have a stock boy." The boy inquires, "If he isn't doing a good job, maybe you need to get someone who will do a better job." The man replies, "No, we are pleased with the work the boy is doing," so the boy hung up the telephone.

The druggist hears the conversation and says to the boy, "I'm sorry you didn't get the job." The boy says, "I don't need a job, because I am the stock boy. I was checking to see what they thought of my work."

What if we could call God to ask about the job we are doing as his stewards? If it were possible to call, what kind of response would you expect to hear? Would God see you as a person who acknowledges all that you have as having been given to you by him and yourself as a manager, not an owner? Would God tell you that you are using your time, talents, and treasures in ways that please him? Would God commend you for feeding the hungry, for sheltering the homeless, for giving generously to those in need? Would God be pleased with what you are giving to his church? Would God tell you, "Well done, good and faithful steward?"

Unfortunately, we all fall well short of God's standards, but, because of what Christ did for us on the cross, we are forgiven for all the times that we have failed to be faithful stewards. With God's grace given to us through his Son, we can be molded and transformed into God-pleasing stewards. In Christ, we can be stewards who do God's work well.



The Hometown Heroes Blood Drive

at Faith started out very slow but ended up great. We saw 50 donors and collected 47 units. We made the goal for Foster Friends!!! Faith donors were Ron, Janice, Jeanette, Troy and Anna, Chris, Maralee, Don, Jacob, Sheila, Hillary, Amber and April. Thanks to all who helped get the word out and donated. The next drive is August 23, from 1 to 5:30. It is also a Hometown Hero drive. Let's double the money for Foster Friends.



YEAR OF THE REFORMATION:

There are many events happening in the Seward area to celebrate the 500th Anniversary of the Reformation. Mark your Calendars!



SEPTEMBER 17: Reformation Hymn Festival by Dr. Jeffrey Blersch at St. John from 3-5pm

OCTOBER 13: Concordia University is hosting a Hymn Sing at Bottle Rocket Brewery from 7-9pm.

OCTOBER 29: Reformation Worship at 3:30 in the Walz Arena followed by a German Fest Dinner with live German Polka Music (Tickets are on sale on the website)

For more info on Concordia's Reformation Events:

<http://reformation.cune.edu/>

Date unknown: Viewing of the new Luther Movie being shown at the Rivoli Theatre.

Congregational Corner

CONGRATULATIONS TO
Mr & Mrs Tim Snyder

June 10, 2017

SCHOOL SUPPLIES ARE NEEDED!

Mission Outreach has designated **Project Promise School Kits** as a Mission Project once again this year. Now is the time purchase the supplies needed for these kits:

- * 70-sheet notebooks of wide or college-ruled paper.
- * 30-centimeter ruler (12 inch) must show centimeters
- * pencil sharpener (just one blade!)
- * blunt scissors
- * #2 pencils with erasers
- * black or blue ball point pens (no gel ink)
- * box of 16 or 24 crayons
- * 2 1/2" eraser
- * drawstring backpack - being made by the Quilters!!

There is a table set up in the Narthex for collecting school supplies as well as getting more information on the School Kits.

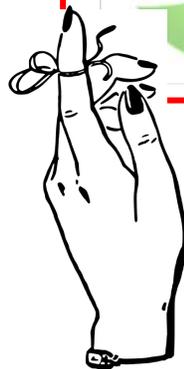


CROP Walk Dates and Information

The body of Christ needs your help for a great mission opportunity! A portion of all funds raised at the CROP Walk come back to us locally and we have again selected BVCA/Foodnet/St John's Foodbank. We need one person to represent our church family on the planning dates of July 20th (7-8pm at Seward UMC) and Thursday, August 24th (7-8pm at St John's). (each can be a different person) The walk itself will be on Sunday, October 8th from 2-4pm at the Plum Creek Walking Trail. Be sure to mark your calendars for the walk, rain or shine, as this was a great day last year!

IT'S CHRISTMAS IN JULY!!

July 30, Faith will be celebrating Christmas with scripture and carols during the regular service. Congo Life and Worship and Music decided to gift the church. There will be a Christmas tree on the bulletin board in the Narthex with tags of things needed for the church. There will be items needed for the kitchen, needed to clean, needed for the Sunday School, all kinds of things. Please take a tag and give a gift to care for the church.



REMEMBER:

NO COUNCIL MEETING IN JULY!!

HIGHLIGHTS FROM THE SYNOD ASSEMBLY IN JUNE



Peg and Bishop Eaton

Mike and Peg attended the Nebraska Synod Assembly in June. They will be doing a “Re-Cap Presentation” in August (tentatively).

Meanwhile, keep St Mark’s Lutheran Church in Valley, Nebraska in your prayers. This is the congregation that was chosen for us to pray for. If you would like to know more about St Mark’s, their Pastor, and their congregation, visit their website at: <http://www.stmarksvalleyne.com/>



Heartfelt Asks that you
SAVE THE DATE:



Saturday, October 28th, 10:00 AM

Junto Winery

1356 182nd, Seward, NE 68434

Join us for an eventful day at the Heartfelt Wicked Women 5K Wine Run.
Enjoy the beautiful scenery at Junto Winery.



Paige with her Graduation Quilt made by the Faithful Piecemakers

Prayer Requests

Lois – Ongoing health concerns from lymphoma and pneumonia
Spencer – Chemo resistant brain tumor (husband of April, Dad of Nolan & Drew)
Bonnie & Dan -Bonnie has cancer (brother & sister-in-law of Robin)
Charlie – Cancer (Maralee’s Cousin)
Mary Lou – End stage Cancer (Aunt of Cindy)
Suzanne –Pancreatic Cancer (friend of Congregation)
Trevor – health concerns (former member)
Ruth – Bone Cancer (Maralee’s Cousin-in-law)
Duane – health concerns
Gary – cancer and recovering from surgery at home (in-law of Jeanette & Sheila)
Don – Healing and patience after surgery (Son-in-law of Bernice)
James – Prayers for successful surgery and rehab (SIL of John & Sheila)
Mindy – Undergoing cancer treatments (Friend of Kathy)
Baby Carson –Multiple Health concerns
Rebecca – Recovering from serious bicycle accident (Don’s daughter)

Andrew, testing following a seizure (son-in-law of Don and Pam)
Erica – Recovering from brain surgery (niece of Eldeen)
Tryston – Recovering from surgeries (Friend of Cindy)
St Mark’s Lutheran Church in Valley, Nebraska
† **Family of Sherry Eppenbach**
† **Family of TJ Meyer**
† **Family of Edna Hilpert**
† **Family of Michelle Harr**
† **Family of Jan Lipska**

The Memorial Committee is looking for suggestions on how to disperse ten percent (a tithe) of the monies Faith Lutheran Church received from the estate of Verna Swanson.

There are printed forms in the Narthex:



SUGGESTION FOR DISBURSEMENT OF THE TITHE FROM VERNA SWANSON’S ESTATE.

Date _____

Your Name _____

Phone / E-mail _____

Charity/Cause/Program: _____

Reason to justify request:

Suggested amount to be given: \$_____

Thank you for your suggestion. It will go to the Memorial Committee for review, then to the Church Council for approval.



Quilt Auction

Saturday, July 29, 2017

Carol Joy Holling Camp, Conference & Retreat Center
Ashland, NE

To view all of the quilts, go to:
<http://cjh2017.piecd.com/items.cfm>

Wanda donated two quilts: #9 and #204. As of June 28, the Faithful Piecemaker Quilts were not yet posted.

Join in this exciting day at Carol Joy Holling Camp on July 29 for our 29th Annual Quilt Auction! The day promises good food, great fun and lots of beautiful quilts donated by friends of Carol Joy Holling Camp. The auction and barbecue lunch will be held rain or shine. (We will use the Town Hall in case of rain.) Bring your friends and families!

Quilts will be on display by 9 a.m. **The auction begins at 9:30 a.m.** We will continue until all quilts are sold, which is usually around 5 p.m.

The quilts will have numbered cards attached indicating the order in which they will be auctioned. This way bidders can approximate when their favorite quilts will be up for auction. The cards also include information about the quilt donor and the size, type and design of the quilt.

Quilts in the past have auctioned for \$25 to \$20,000. Lance Larsen, a professional auctioneer from Cordova, NE, is volunteering his time to auction the quilts. He and his associates will do their best to encourage bidding and bring a fair price for each quilt. Depending on the number of quilts donated, a selected group will be sold through a silent auction. Bidding will open at the silent auction at 9 a.m. and close at 2 p.m. with winning bids for the day released at approximately 3:00 p.m.

You won't want to miss the barbecued turkey lunch with dessert and beverage served from 11:30 a.m. until 1 p.m. Camp tours will be available throughout the day and the swimming pool will be open at 12:30 p.m. with a certified lifeguard on duty.

Schedule

9 a.m. Quilts on display, Silent Auction begins

9:30 a.m. Auction begins

11:30 a.m. - 1 p.m. BBQ lunch served

2 p.m. Silent Auction closes

Bus tours and hayrack rides will be available and the Camp Store will be open throughout the day.

There will be a sign up sheet in the Narthex if you would like to carpool to this fun event. See Jeanette Richardson for more information.

When it comes to **keeping the brain sharp during breaks from school**, there is **nothing better than reading**, both for the joy of being lost in a good story and for the delight of the brain thinking on its own rather than under direction, IF the books are engaging of the brain. The difficulty is knowing what books would be good for that. The good news is, even if you only read good books, there isn't enough time to read them all, so you'll never run out, you may just fuel a hunger.

Toward helping us read books that are both captivating stories and thought-provoking, here are some recommended classics from Compass Classroom for different age groups and genres.

Middle-School:

- Peter Pan, J.M. Barrie
- The Hobbit, J.R.R. Tolkien
- Uncle Tom's Cabin, Harriet Beecher Stowe**
- Around the World in Eighty Days, Jules Verne
- The Adventures of Sherlock Holmes, Arthur Conan Doyle
- A Christmas Carol, Charles Dickens
- Little Women, Louisa May Alcott
- Anne of Green Gables, L.M. Montgomery
- The Witch of Blackbird Pond, Elizabeth George Speare
- Sir Gawain and the Green Knight**
- Adventures of Huckleberry Finn, Mark Twain*
- The Odyssey, Homer
- The Chronicles of Narnia, C.S. Lewis
- Julius Caesar, William Shakespeare
- All Quiet on the Western Front, Erich Remarque*
- Autobiography by Ben Franklin
- The Last of the Mohicans, James Fenimore Cooper
- Pilgrim's Progress, John Bunyan
- The Scarlet Letter, Nathaniel Hawthorne
- My Antonia, Willa Cather
- Animal Farm, George Orwell*
- To Kill a Mockingbird, Harper Lee**
- Beowulf, translated by Seamus Heaney
- Robinson Crusoe, Daniel Defoe
- Poems by George Herbert
- Sonnets by William Shakespeare
- Treasure Island, Robert Louis Stevenson

High School

- The Scarlet Pimpernel, Baroness Emmuska Orczy
- A Tale of Two Cities, Charles Dickens
- Pride and Prejudice, Jane Austen
- The Portable Romantic Poets, edited by W.H. Auden
- Great Expectations, Dickens
- 1984, George Orwell
- Sense and Sensibility, Jane Austen
- Jane Eyre, Charlotte Bronte
- The Great Gatsby, F. Scott Fitzgerald**
- Les Miserables, Victor Hugo
- Greenmantle, John Buchan
- The Lord of the Rings, J.R.R. Tolkien
- Brideshead Revisited, Evelyn Waugh**
- The Nine Tailors, Dorothy Sayers
- Brave New World, Aldous Huxley**
- "Harvard Address," Alexander Solzhenitsyn
- Goodbye, Mr. Chips, James Hutton
- Rasselas, Samuel Johnson
- Collected Poems of T.S. Eliot
- Collected Poems of Gerard Manley Hopkins
- Collected Poems of John Keats
- Orthodoxy, G.K. Chesterton
- The Hiding Place, Corrie ten Boom*
- The Sound and the Fury, William Faulkner**
- The Space Trilogy, C.S. Lewis

This is the "Modernity" list. There is a more extensive list available if you would like it.

* Contains violence that may be a bit mature for some audiences
 **Contains sexual content that may be a bit mature for some audience

To quote Compass Classroom's blog:

"While this list is by no means exhaustive, some of you might think this list is far too ambitious, while others of you might find it meager. This list is simply a guide. You may feel your child is not quite ready for some of these works. Or maybe s/he's already read several of them. We simply want to suggest what books we believe are worth placing in front of your child -- the books we've read and love. Many of these books are difficult. Help your child and encourage her/him, by all means, but never stop leading them to greater and greater heights. There are depths of wisdom from ancient authors just waiting to be plumbed. Teach your children to love great books worth loving by loving them yourself."

Considering that Homer's "The Odyssey" is in the Middle School list, I'm a little surprised 1001 Arabian Nights is not. Does anyone else have a classic you think should be on one of these lists?