

Faith Evangelical Lutheran Church
2010 Annual Report
“Thus Far Has the Lord Helped Us”
1 Samuel 7:12

Remarkable!

Greetings to you in our remarkable Lord Jesus. I tend, perhaps, to use this word too much. I also gravitate to words like “overwhelming, magnificent, and marvelous.”

All these words describe 2010. In addition to all the daily and weekly ministry routines, all the worship services, plus Advent, Christmas, Lent and Easter, we had a rather remarkable year.

- There was the routine: Bible classes met, VBS happened, kids went to camp, LYF and JYM had meetings and fun, Circles met and served, Sunday School and Midweek met and learned; Musicians practiced, sang, and played; Ushers ushered, greeters greeted and prayers prayed; etc. Yet put all the waves of routine together and it was remarkable.
- Yes, the firsts: the first Mardi Gras in our Christian Family Life Center and the first Souper Bowl meal, the first Good Friday and Easter meals, the first Rally Day Fiesta and many, many firsts in the new Christian Family Life Center. The first football thrown, the first basketball shot, the first volleyball hit, the first walker walking laps, it was a remarkable year of firsts.

Some modest remodeling in the Preschool and a complete overhaul of our Faith Lutheran Daycare Center. The Campus took on a new beauty, new trees, more flowers, new bushes, grass where gravel once existed, the first year of the Memorial Garden blooming, the Grace Plaza in full bloom as well around the Remarkable rock. Really, here is the remarkable transition – that “Ebenezer Rock,” “Thus far has the Lord helped us.” Yes the transition to the two very large events of 2010.

First, the completion of the Christian Family Life Center. Wednesday morning coffees with 10 to

sometimes 35 workers went from outside to inside, members provided chairs and tables, TV’s, whiteboards, floor tile, sports equipment. They painted, erected steel walls, installed sheetrock, cleaned, taped, textured, laid sod and planted. The outpouring of gifts and labor – was – oh no, not again, Remarkable! Remarkable was the work of our Building Committee and our Fulfillment Committee.

Second, the Day of Dedication! That huge meal served by Zion – Sioux Falls Action Ministry team (now we know we can seat 460 at a sit down meal). There were three terrific sermons from Pastor David Schmidt, Pastor Jonathan Offt, and Dr. Reed “Buy the field” Lessing. Wonderful music filled the day. There was a dedication of the Building, the Young Conference Room, the Memorial Garden, the striking Cross on the Euclid Avenue side of our building, and Grace Plaza. When the day was over, the kitchen cleaned up, chairs and tables put away, the Building Committee, the Fulfillment Committee, the staff, and the participants of the day gathered for a “post prom” time at the staff apartment garage. It was a tired but elated, remarkable bunch of God’s people. We chatted, laughed, wiped away a few tears of joy and looked across the street and said, in many ways

“God is Remarkable”

So, 2010 Anno Domini is history. God, the Father Almighty, the Maker of heaven and earth, had taken the routine and made the remarkable happen.

I have a great many “Favorite” Bible passages but for the sake of the Pastoral letter for 2010 these two stand out –

“Then Samuel took a stone and set it up between Mizpah and Shen. He named it Ebenezer, saying ‘Thus far has the Lord helped us.’”

1 Samuel 7:12

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and

“But you are a chosen people, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, a people belonging to God, that you may declare the praises of him who called you out of darkness into his wonderful light.”

1 Peter 2:2

Indeed, Thus far has God helped us. Let us in 2011 be His declarers to the ends of the earth.

You are remarkable, “people belonging to God,” at Faith Evangelical Lutheran Church. With the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit the routine for God is always remarkable.

The Lord be with you.

In His remarkable love,

Pastor Brad Urbach



IN FOR THE LONG HAUL

“I will extol the Lord at all times; his praise will always be on my lips.

My soul will boast in the Lord; let the afflicted hear and rejoice.

Glorify the Lord with me; let us exalt his name together!”

Psalms 34: 1-3

What is the purpose of our adult chorale, hand bell choir or other music ensembles in the church? As the choir director and music coordinator, I began thinking that if I cannot verbalize this, how can I communicate it to music participants or the rest of the parish. The easy answers of today’s culture don’t suffice. “It’s fun! You’ll make new friends!” Those are both true, but those needs can be served with other activities. A somewhat obvious answer is that we help lead the congregation in worship. But is that unique enough to make it worth one’s time? Does it make a difference in one’s life or the lives of those around them?

Jerry and Corinne Wulf have been faithful members of the choir for nearly thirty years, and now they will be leaving Pierre for a time while Jerry assumes the role of Chief Financial Officer of the Lutheran Church Missouri Synod. While we are very proud of and excited for their new opportunity, I have to admit that one of my first reactions was “Help! How do I go about replacing two rock-solid servants?” Jerry and Corinne made choir rehearsals a priority; they were always present. They placed choir ahead of their own personal agendas; they never complained about the music, the schedule, the sometimes-lengthy and tedious rehearsals, or arriving early on Sunday and devoting a good share of the morning to worship.

Jerry worded it this way: “...many voices have come and gone, yet the choir sang on – praising God, leading the congregation in worship, and edifying the saints with our gifts of music. I pray that this important ministry will continue at Faith Lutheran for many years to come.”

“I know that being a member of the choir is a huge commitment of time and talent. But that commitment pales in comparison to the commitment God made to all humanity, in Christ Jesus. While we thank God for the opportunity to sing with all of you, we especially thank God for all the blessings He has bestowed on us.”

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I feel certain that the music selected for our choir, bell ringers, vocalists, and instrumentalists is worth singing and playing, even if it is not always “great music of the church.” The job of the choir and other ensembles is to stretch the participants spiritually and to plant words in their minds that will give them spiritual strength and comfort when they need it.

All people, regardless of their age, are gifted with unique skills, talents, and abilities. You are called to be reflections of God’s creativity and imagination in worship. There are many ways to participate in Faith’s music ministry – long-term and short-term, or even one-time. We offer participants opportunities to develop their skills and grow in understanding – not only musically, but also spiritually. I would invite each of you to explore your possible role in this ministry, wrapped in inspirational music that defines the season and the church year.

There is no doubt in my mind that our music ministry has strengthened the Wulf’s already-strong faith, for Jerry adds this postscript to his thoughts:

“O magnify the Lord with me; and let us exalt his name together. Hallelujah!”

Karen Lindbloom
Music Coordinator



Hello Faith Family,

I was surprised by the Epistle lesson for my last Sunday with you. In many ways 1 Corinthians chapter 2 and specifically from that text the second verse has been foundational in my view of serving as a pastor. I do not want to in this letter give away the overall content of my final sermon, but yet this message is essential in stepping away as your pastor. Paul writes in 1 Corinthians 2:2, “For I resolved to know nothing while I was with you except Jesus Christ and him crucified.”

Now if I were to say that those words were true for me, many might raise their hands and object. A pastor has all kinds of ideas about a broad range of topics. We tell you our opinions about how we should live, and view things in the world. There are sermons that cover a broad range of theological topics and life applications. I don’t believe Paul is saying that he doesn’t say anything but Jesus died on a cross. See, Paul is dealing with traveling preachers/philosophers that are always sharing their opinions. Most of them are seeking to pad their pockets and to propagate ideas that make them look important or wise.

Paul says that he isn’t about any of that. The centrality of what he preaches is Jesus Christ and what He has done for them on the cross. Sure Paul talks about a great deal of things, but all of them find their center in a God who loves us through the life, death, and resurrection of Jesus.

I promise you this; I have failed to do that from time to time. Okay, probably more often than that. However, I hope you can say that there was a resolve in me to preach Jesus Christ. I hope my sermons and times with you oozed with the hope of life that Jesus brings through His death. I hope you

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can have some joy today, because although I leave you, Jesus does not. He never will. One thing I am confident in is that Jesus Christ is still going to be preached here. Pastor Urbach preaches Jesus Christ and Him crucified. Whoever will replace me will preach Jesus Christ and Him crucified. And God will move His Church forward.

My wife and I, as well as our children, would like to express our deepest thanks for our time we shared with you. You have loved us deeply and cared for us. We have grown greatly during our time here. We will miss serving at this church and we will miss all of you. You have been great examples for us in our family life, and great examples of faithful followers of Christ. Faith Lutheran and Pierre will always have a special place in our hearts. You will be in our prayers. Please remember us in yours. God Bless!

In His Service,

Pastor Willms

FAITH LUTHERAN PRESCHOOL

Preschool in 2010 has three sessions of 19, 20, and 24-students each for a total of 63 children.

Our five-year-old session meets on Monday, Wednesday, and Friday mornings from 9:00-11:30. Our regular sessions are Tuesday and Thursday, both morning 9:00-11:30 and Tuesday and Thursday afternoon 1:00-3:30. Donna Gohl, Anita Marso, and Cathy Califf serve as teacher aides and do an excellent job! The dedication and love of children that these women have is outstanding. Thanks to the LWML for their generous donation to our program for the new shelves. The Endowment Fund helped us with a grant for curriculum and professional dues for the director. Thank you!

Each month we study a specific shape, number, color and letter, as well as rotate the toys, puzzles, books and games from the storage closets. Each week we follow a central theme that is related to a Bible story. We share God's love not only in the printed material, but also through our actions. It is our goal that the children will not only hear that God loves them, but see that love through us. Besides our full day of activities, which include stories, art projects, free play, rhymes, trike time, music, snacks, and group games, we also have field trips in the church van.

So far last fall we had a visit from Fireman John, Pastor Urbach, Pastor Willms, Deb Bumann with dental health, Dr. Jamie Liudahl, Tina Ottenbacher, and Angel Getz about nursing. John Broers was our law enforcement officer.

In December we were able to visit the Capitol to see the Christmas trees and feed the geese. Our Preschool decorated a tree at the Mall with pine cones.

Pat Huisman made all our cookies (12 dozen) for our Christmas program and Al Urlis made all our wooden trees for the children to give their parents. Thank you, Al and Pat!

Many thanks go out to all who have in some way supported our program. The Board of Early Childhood Education is a blessing with their encouragement. With our increase in class size, we are in need of parents to help drive us to our many outings. Without them, our field trips would not be possible. Thank you to Jay Fredrich, Pastor Willms, Pastor Urbach, Helen Kiepkke, Bob Green, Dale Gohl and the members of Faith who are always encouraging and supporting us.

Jan Larson,
Preschool Director

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FAITH LUTHERAN DAY CARE

The Faith Lutheran Day Care has been in operation for 23 years. I started my position as the Daycare Director in November of 2009. I have had tremendous help and support from Pastors Brad and Levi, the current staff at Faith Lutheran, the pre-school teachers, Helen and all the daycare parents.

Jennifer and I are both currently enrolled in the Childhood Development Associates school at The Right Turn in Pierre. We will both have attained our degree by September of 2011. I feel this will be a great benefit to the daycare.

I would like to thank Pastor Brad for all of his help and support and always lending an ear and taking the time to listen. We would like to thank Pastor Levi for the monthly chapel for the kids; they truly enjoy this time and look forward to it every month. I also have great support from the Board of Early Childhood Education they also are always very open to new ideas. The LMWL has once again blessed us with their generosity by providing a cash donation to be used for whatever we see fit.

We currently have a great group of staff at the Day Care, and everyone is very willing to help out whenever needed. Our current staff members are: Noell Uhlir (director), Jennifer Carr (assistant director), Dean Brodkorb (cook), Clareen James, Leah Lappe, Carolyn Kropuenske, Kim Lagan, Brenda Underdahl, Debra Ramquist, Karrie James, Taylor Sherwood, Nicole Loosbrock, Dodie Hardy,

and Heather Kleinsasser helped out during Christmas break. We also have a wonderful volunteer, Josh Ramquist. He is a super kid, and loves working with the children. I would also like to thank Lurene Denke for helping us out for several months. She was a great asset to the Daycare and I hated to see her leave. Day Care currently has two great women who are always willing to substitute at the drop of a hat. The first is Lois Erbe who has helped at the Day Care for years, and Dorothy Liegl. I would like to thank Dorothy too for all her generosity. She is always purchasing books, toys, etc. for the Daycare and we truly are thankful for her thoughtfulness. We extend a big thank you to these ladies for helping us out. Also, we need to thank Jay Fredrich for maintaining our Day Care facility, and doing whatever we ask him to do which can be quite a bit at times.

Our enrollment is currently at 55 children ages 6 weeks to 11 years. We currently have 10 babies ages 8 weeks to 15 months. We have 8 toddlers that range from 18 months to 3 years old. We have 25, 3-5 year olds, and 11 after school children. Thanks to everyone's time and generosity, Faith Lutheran Daycare Center continues to be one of the top Daycares in our area.

I am confident that with everyone's generosity and support we will have many more great years of caring for children in a way that God intended. May the light of Christ continue to shine on the Day Care and all of our families. .

Noell Uhlir
Director



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***LUTHERAN WOMEN’S
MISSIONARY LEAGUE***
“Serve the Lord with Gladness”

The LWML’s motto is “Serve the Lord with Gladness”. You will find this motto carried out everyday in the Faith Lutheran LWML whether it is serving funeral lunches, first Sunday coffee or coffee at Maryhouse, the women do it with gladness.

The LWML is mission oriented. It encourages women to live Christian lives. The six circles of Faith do this in many different ways: Altar Guild preparing the Church Sanctuary for Worship; Berea Circle taking care of the Library; Faith Circle preparing goodie boxes for the college students; Mary/Martha Circle visiting the elderly and shut-ins; Priscilla Circle supporting parents of Cradle Roll children and remembering them on special occasions, and Rebekah Circle’s support for the Daycare and Preschool, to list a few. They also do this by collecting “Mites” which are offerings above and beyond the support given to congregations and LCMS. These contributions go toward our district and national mission grants.

The Country Fair is a wonderful annual event that brings the whole congregation together to put all their talents to work for wonderful mission projects. This years proceeds went to: **NATIONAL:** Orphan Grain Train and Solar Oven Partners; **DISTRICT:** Rosebud Lutheran Church and Angel Flight; **LOCAL:** Pierre Food Pantry and Pierre Area Referral’s Back Pack Food Program; **IN-HOUSE:** Daycare, Preschool, Lutheran Youth Fellowship (LYF). A big thank you to everyone who helped; especially our Chairman Anita Marso and her helpers Donna Leslie and Kristy Deal.

February’s Silent Auction proceeds went to Missouri Shores Domestic Violence Center.

The offering and in-gathering from the Christmas Party went to the Pierre Food Pantry.

Continue to “Serve the Lord with Gladness”

Jan Larson

ALTAR GUILD



Altar Guild’s mission is to serve, and this service is to our Pastors, Board of Elders, and the congregation of Faith Evangelical Lutheran Church. The Altar Guild’s service includes weekly preparing and maintaining the paraments, linens, sacramental vessels, candles, altar flowers, and vestments for acolytes. Our tasks of service are performed for each worship service, special service, funeral, and wedding. Members decorate the sanctuary Christmas tree, prepare the Glory Cross at Easter, or decorate the Easter tree.

Serving on Altar Guild is a spiritual commitment and a privilege which members joyfully do for the glory of God and the building up of His people.

Flower charts are provided for signup twice a year; poinsettias at Christmas and lilies at Easter. If you would like to provide flowers at any other time, please advise one of the Altar Guild members and alert the church office so it might be noted in the bulletin. A special thank you for all the wedding flowers and special occasion flowers that have been so lovingly donated this past year.

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Altar Guild meets three to four times a year, and any additional times as necessary. We welcome anyone who would like to join us in serving the Lord. Please contact any member if this would be of interest to you.

Our membership includes: Chairperson, Sandy Bales, Secretary, Renee Knapp, and Treasurer, JoAnn Sanders. Other members include: Gloria Bump, Janice Deal, Lisa Donner, Phyllis Douglas, Verna Fransen, Lila Houck-Urlis, Karen Humphrey, Jan Johnson, Doreen Kayser, Sandy Peterson, and Gloria Welk. Honorary members are: Bernice Huber and Shirley Keller.

BEREA CIRCLE



In 2010, Berea Circle maintained the Church Resource Center.

Christian greeting cards, napkins, jewelry, books, Bibles, videos and other gift items were purchased to sell in the Resource Center/Library.

Members are available on Sunday mornings to assist you with purchases you may wish to make. The self-service envelopes are available for your use when circle members are not in the Library.

This past year, we have provided get-well cards to the LWML, which are sent to members of the congregation. We also provide birthday cards that are sent to the members of the Confirmation class by the LWML. The circle provided pins, which the LWML presents to the Confirmands and graduates in the spring.

Our circle assisted the LWML in serving treats at MaryHouse, first Sunday coffee, kitchen cleaning and funerals as assigned. We gave a monetary donation to PARS for the SHARE holiday meal project. We participated in the Country Fair.

Circle meetings are the second Tuesday of the month at 7:30 p.m. in the Church Living Room. Guests are always welcome.

2011 Officers and members are: Chairman – Donna Gohl; Secretary – Ruth Leidholt; Treasurer/Ordering Chairman – Ruth Hansen; Christian Growth – Bernadine Hinckley; Caller – Velda Rediger. Members are - Joyce Nielsen, Ruby Thoen, Lavonne Zeiszler, and Arlene Barker. Honorary Member - Kathryn Urquhart.

FAITH CIRCLE



Faith Circle ministers to all members of the congregation through the purchase and placement of tracts in the rack located in the Narthex of our church. We pray that they will be helpful in your time of need.

We also work to minister to the college age students in our congregation by sending 55-65 goodie boxes twice a year: once for Halloween and once for Valentine's Day. It would be very helpful, so that we don't miss anyone, if you would contact the church office with the address of your college student so that we might brighten their day with a package from "home" at these holiday times. Along with the homemade and purchased items, we send along reminders to them that there are people in their home congregation who are thinking of them and encouraging them to continue to be faithful to

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God. We want to thank those from the congregation who have assisted us with monetary support to help cover the postage costs for sending over sixty of these goodie boxes to college students from our congregation.

During the months of October and February, we change the meeting date so that it is closer to the shipment of our goodie boxes. Our regularly scheduled meeting is the second Thursday of the month at 7:00, meeting at the church, or in the homes of our members. You are warmly invited to join us in our Bible study and the fellowship that follows. You could contact any of our members to find out the meeting place or check the bulletin or church calendar.

Another of our responsibilities is to help with the scheduled events of the LWML. These would include serving coffee and refreshments at Maryhouse, providing rolls and serving for the church's First Sunday Coffee, cleaning the church kitchen, and providing food and serving for events scheduled in our church throughout the year.

We want to take this opportunity to thank the ladies on our auxiliary list for the support that they show whenever they are called on for assistance in various ways. Their help has been very much appreciated.

Our members are as follows: Jane Braley- Chairman, Clara Shelbourn – Vice Chairman, Beth Schiltz– Treasurer, Mary Heidelberger – Secretary, Cindy Fiechtner – Christian Growth, Judy Coyle- Tracts, Rachel Aamold, Cheryl Brull, Susan Burroughs, Cindy Ellwein, Niki Gossman, Jolynn Haberling, Kathy Olson, Char Russell, Jeanne Schweigert, Susan Stoneback, Gloria Welk, Jessica Willms, Corinne Wulf, and Gloris Zoller.



MARY/MARTHA CIRCLE

Like Mary and Martha in the Bible, our members seek to learn more of their Lord and to serve Him by serving others.

We meet monthly for Bible study, fellowship and a brief business meeting.

During the year, we remember the elderly and shut-ins of our congregation with cards and visits for Valentine's Day, Easter, and Christmas. We also correspond with Ronald Bagola, a handicapped gentleman living in a group home in Mitchell. We also take our turn serving Maryhouse, first Sunday coffee, funerals and other assigned functions, with the help of our great auxiliary members.

We meet at 7:30 on the 4th Thursday of the month - date and location listed in the bulletin.

Our members are: Chairman, Grace Schmitgen, Secretary/Treasurer, Linda Nill, other members Mary Buxcel, Cathy Califf, Grace Curtis, Loretta Jochim, Delores Jorgensen, Carolyn Kropuenske, Leah Lappe, Marie McIntire, Rena Ortbahn, Bev Parrott, Freda Peters, Opal Tousley. Honorary Member: Shirley English.

PRISCILLA CIRCLE



Our main duty is the Cradle Roll. The special Cradle Roll board with all the children enrolled is in the Narthex. Each child is named on a little Lamb with their

Birthday and Baptism date. We send letters of Christian guidance to the parents that are timely for the age of the child during their first 3 years. We remember the children on their Birthdays, anniversary of their Baptism, and a small gift at

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Christmas. Baptized infants receive a growth calendar.

The banner that is displayed and the candelabra that is used at each baptism are two of our projects.

This year there were 20 children baptized and there are currently 70 on the cradle roll.

Birth congratulatory cards are sent to all new parents in the Pierre/Ft Pierre area.

During the year we try to remember our members, their families, and some of our auxiliary members with gifts or cards in time of illness, hospitalization, bereavement, wedding, births, etc.

We assist LWML with serving 1st Sunday coffee, Mary house, kitchen cleaning and other functions as assigned. We especially thank the members of our auxiliary that assist us with this.

This year our special mission project was chaired by Myrna Hartmann. The Samaritan’s Purse Mission “Shoe Box for Kids”. With help from the congregation and the LWML we were able to assemble and pay postage for 45 boxes. Thanks to Myrna and all who contributed.

Priscilla Circle welcomes guests at any meeting. Regular meetings are the last Monday of every other month beginning in January at 7:30 p.m.

Officers and standing appointment are:

Chairman; Elaine Wagner, Vice Chairman; Charlotte Hiller, Cradle Roll; Velda Bartel, Treasure/Birth Congratulations; Myrna Hartmann, Secretary; Melissa Choate & Anita Marso, Mission Inspiration; Peggy Urquhart, 1st Sunday caller; Judy Costar, Mary House caller; Luann Zuercher, Kitchen caller; Margaret Kayser, Circle Caller; LaVonn Lidel,

Members: Arlene Buhl, Robyn Peterson, Lorri Rathbun, Pauline Paul, Lynda Wagner, Jackie Hoefener.

New members: Carlene Barber and Hilary Lee.

REBEKAH CIRCLE

Rebekah Circle’s function is to support the operation of preschool and daycare. We endeavor to enhance the worship at Faith Evangelical Lutheran Church.



During the Easter season, we make “palm branches” for daycare for our little Christians to joyfully portray the jubilation ride of Christ into Jerusalem.

Rebekah provides tools of “scribble sheets” for our little Lutherans. They are located in the cabinets at the back of the church.

We have the pleasure of serving treats to the residents of Mary House. Rebekah Circle provided support to the Crèche Festival.

It’s inspiring to see the excitement that comes from the viewing!

Donna Park cheerfully does the task of trimming and counting soup labels. This project helps to provide equipment for the daycare and preschool. A big thanks to Donna!

We meet at Faith Lutheran’s conference room the third Thursday of each month at 7 p.m. Please join us!

Rebekah Circle officers and members include:

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Janice Dockter-Chairwoman, Eleanor Kreitman-Vice Chairwoman, Pat Huisman-Treasurer, Lennis Axdahl, Lila Briggs, Melissa Brock, Joan Cash, Kristy Deal, Melanie Fuerst, Daleen Gore, Darlene Hallem, Clareen James, Alison Jares, Janice Johnson, Dee Koch, Carissa Naasz, Donna Park, Lavonn Lytle-Voita.

FAITH EV. LUTHERAN CHURCH BOARDS



As the Board of Elders, we strive to make Faith Lutheran Church a loving place for our Faith family and for all visitors that join us in worship. Romans 1:6 says, “You ...are called to belong to Jesus Christ.” We believe that as a Board that is our continued prayer for our congregation and community of Faith.

Throughout 2010, we, as your Board of Elders, have tried to follow God’s will for us and we work to assist the pastors in church activities. We always have an opening prayer before each service and hold monthly meetings. In addition we hold monthly Christ Care meetings where we along with our Pastors and the Board of Deaconesses pray for those in need in our congregation, for healing comfort, and for all joys and sorrows in our Faith family and friends. We close out services when one or both Pastors are providing pastoral care for our Blunt congregation or are out of town.

Throughout the year, we prepare, with the Board of Missions, meals for new members to our congregation, so they may get to know some members of our Board a little better and we are able to meet new members of our Faith family.

The Elders train the new Acolytes each year and serve with the Acolytes at each service. We thank them for their dedication and special service to our Faith family.

In June, we served the Community Banquet and provided around 300 meals for those in our community who attended. This continues to be a tremendous success and a great Mission tool to reach out to our community. We also helped serve a meal for the Vacation Bible School workers.

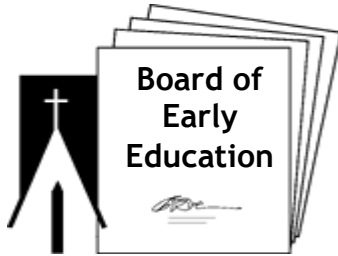
This summer we continued a midweek church service and had a fair response from the congregation. We continue to evaluate the possibility of continuing this in the summer of 2011.

Other Board activities included: Setup and take down the Christmas tree; prepare and cook the lamb for the Passover meal; hosted a Thank You picnic for the Building Committee, Fulfillment Committee, elders, church staff, and Pastors in June.

We continue to pray for our Faith family and provide support for the Pastors. We look forward to a joyous and prosperous 2011. *“Thus far has the Lord helped us.”* May Christ’s words be in our hearts and guide our lives!

Board members are: Steve Allard, John Bartel, Bill Bossman, Curt Everson, Randy Hartmann, Dale Heidelberger, Matt King, Paul Lepisto, Fred Marso, Brad Schultz, Ken Shelbourn, and Dave Zuercher.

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The Board of Early Childhood Education is the advisory board to Faith Lutheran Daycare and to Faith Lutheran Preschool. Both of these programs are not for profit and self-sustaining, so budgeting is our main challenge along with staffing and attendance.

The Board consists of six members, Neil Schochenmaier, Bonnie Bauder, Hilary Lee, Allison Jares, Darin Hodges, and Dan Cronin. These Board members are dedicated to ensuring that the two programs succeed and I would like to thank them for their hard work and commitment. Outgoing Board members this year are Margaret Pier and Jacy Clarke. The contributions they brought to the Board will be missed.

In April, the Daycare made the transition from the basement upstairs to what was the old fellowship hall. Lots of hands and time were given to make the weekend move a success. On Monday morning the Daycare welcomed the children to a new and bright facility. Thank you to everyone that helped with getting the facility ready and helped with the move. Thank you also to the individuals and the LWML that purchased new equipment for the Daycare.

The Daycare enrollment is at full capacity with a number of families waiting to enroll their children with us. Caring for the children are Director Noell Uhler, Assistant Director Jennifer Carr, three full time and eight part time staff, and Dean Brodkorb, cook. All of these folks work very hard and their dedication to the children is apparent.

The Daycare is also blessed to have such caring people who work as substitutes and volunteers. Without the support that they provide, it would be very difficult to keep the Daycare running smoothly.

Faith Lutheran Preschool enrollment remains steady. Jan Larson continues as the Director and is assisted by Cathy Califf, Donna Gohl and Anita Marso. Jan and her staff are committed to providing a loving, structured, Christian learning environment.

The Preschool room also received some remodel work. A new divider wall was constructed by volunteers from the Board of Trustees and members of the church. This wall replaces cubicle style partitions that were used in the past. New shelving units were also purchased for the Preschool. Thank you to all that helped make the Preschool a better facility.

Jay Fredrich continues to keep the Daycare and Preschool clean and looking great. Jay also provides carpentry and handyman skills completing projects for the programs. Thank you Jay!

The two programs continue to raise funds through Dakotamart receipts, Campbell Soup labels and Land O'Lakes milk container caps. In addition they have received gifts from the LWML Country Fair and the Endowment Fund. The Daycare received a grant that covered the cost of purchasing new cubbies to go along with the new facility.

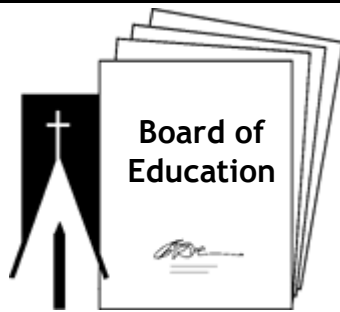
Finally, the Board wishes to thank Pastor Urbach, Pastor Willms, the Church staff, and Linda Nill (Treasurer) for their continued support and assistance in the operation of the Daycare and Preschool programs.

Neil Schochenmaier, Chairman
Board of Early Childhood Education

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The Board of Education at Faith is responsible for providing religious instruction for all members of our congregation. This is accomplished through Sunday School, Midweek, Confirmation Classes, Adult Bible Classes, Vacation Bible School, and Summer Sunday School.

Some of the Board duties include:

- * Monitoring halls during Midweek,
- * Filling Sunday School and Midweek teacher slots,
- * Organizing and selling Midweek supplies for children,
- * Organizing and helping with games for Rally Day,
- * Hosting Christmas Coffee for all Sunday School, Midweek, Daycare and Preschool teachers,
- * Heading up the Christmas party for all Midweek students at the Aquatics Center,
- * Hosting teacher lunch in April for all teachers in appreciation for bringing the Good News of Jesus to our children,
- * Hosting the ice cream social for all Midweek students in May,
- * Preparing and planning for Vacation Bible School in June,
- * Planning more spiritual growth for the entire congregation through the wonderful leadership of Pastor Willms.

Our Board consists of: John Koch - Chair, Heidi Kampfe - Vice Chair, Beth Schiltz - Secretary, Jan Chambers, Dave Siebrasse, Bob Green, and Melissa Choate.



The Board of Missions and Evangelism's role is to promote the message of God within our congregation as well as in community. The Board is also supportive of missionaries working around the world. This is accomplished through sending welcome letters to new members of the community, co-hosting new member receptions, sending personal notes to visitors who have worshiped with us, hosting community events, donating time and money in the community when needed; sending letters of support and encouragement to the Borchards in Papua New Guinea, The Kashenovs in Kazakhstan, and the Utechts in Rosebud, SD.

Projects of note that the Board of Missions and Evangelism had done this year include:

- * Hosting fundraiser coffee for the mission trip to Hong Kong.
- * Served a meal during Vacation Bible School for Captive Free and the VBS teachers.
- * Served Root Beer floats after the Captive Free concert during Vacation Bible School.
- * Organized the Trunk 'n Treat event on Halloween, handed out glow in the dark Crosses, bookmarks, and candy for approximately 700 children.
- * Helped with the Crèche festival.
- * Participated in the monthly visits to Betty's Place to share fellowship and breakfast.
- * Provided hospitality with free water, shade and an area to rest for bikers on their way to and from the Sturgis Motorcycle Rally.

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I Samuel 7:12

Members of the Board of Missions and Evangelism include: Cathy Brock, David Keith, Brenda Kleinjan, Chris McCarty, Matt Naasz, Tony Neyhart, Bob Overturf, and Steve Wilson.



The Board of Parish Fellowship promotes interaction and companionship between members and guests of Faith Lutheran Church. Our goal is to provide nourishment for our bodies as well as our souls through events the board hosts or helps to organize...good food, warmth and laughter. As with all family gatherings, when we share a meal together it creates an even closer bond!

In 2010 some of activities we've either hosted or lent our hands are:

- Congregational Swim/Pizza Party
- Invitation Sunday/Souper Bowl
- Mardi Gras
- Christian Family Life Center Dedication
- Vacation Bible School meal
- Brat & Burger Feed
- Rally Day Fiesta
- Golf Scramble and Pizza party
- Mission Festival

Our present members are:

- Janet Ott - Chairwoman; Andy Lindbloom - Vice Chair; Rhonda Peterson – Secretary; Bill Blauert, Jeff Logan, Dawn Koch, Lennis Axdahl, Lori Wilson, Nicole Bartel

We appreciate the past service of Amy Eldridge and Kenny Doppenberg to the Board of Parish Fellowship.

Thank you to all of you for your commitment, your willingness to serve and for your creative and positive attitudes. It's truly joyful to serve with you to in turn serve our congregation!



With the completion of the Christian Family Life Center and the purchase of the 624 Grand Avenue property the BOT has increased responsibilities and oversight of a substantially larger campus. This is reflected both in the budget and also in the amount of physical work necessary. During 2010, the BOT, with the assistance of additional congregational members and contractors, was able to complete a number of tasks beneficial to the congregation.

The CFLC was a primary focus early in the year with the completion of the Mark room and hall area on the second floor. Also, the BOT was able to put up drywall on the exterior walls in the Luke and John rooms including a divider wall between these two rooms.

The 624 Grand Avenue property was rented in May and required a few work days in 2010. Initially the property was painted by Jay and the carpet in the living room and hall replaced prior to the renter taking possession. The BOT then had a work night and placed timbers around the parking lot on the rear of the property to better delineate the parking

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area from the lawn. Along with a few minor repairs the BOT also was able during the year to get the shower in the basement replaced and additional insulation blown into the ceiling of this property. The BOT also voted to allow a subcommittee of Pastor Brad, Jay and the Board of Trustees Chairman to handle all repairs to this property up to \$200 without having BOT approval.

The budget for 2010 was reviewed and adjustments made for 2011 that more closely reflected the usage of funds, primarily regarding the utilities, general maintenance, and capitol improvements. The BOT had budgeted again for carpet replacement in the sanctuary in 2010 and had not anticipated a large enough increase for the utilities for the CFLC. It was decided the carpeting in the sanctuary was in good enough shape to forego immediate replacement and repairs will be done to alleviate the bubbling problem. With additional information available, the budget for utilities was increased to more accurately reflect the current facility usage, the same for general maintenance. Based on 2010 actual expenditures the BOT reduced the 2011 budget by \$5,000, or almost 5%.

The BOT again contracted with Midwest construction to handle snow removal for the winter months based on the same fee schedule from the previous year.

The BOT again would like to commend Jay Fredrich for the excellent job performed in maintaining the Faith Lutheran Church campus.

The Board of Trustees members are: Phil Baker, Marrill Bales, John Henderson, Dale Knapp, Roger Larson, Ron Peterson, Ed Poile, Tony Spitzer, and Leonard Spomer.

Dale Knapp, Chairman.



Our emphasis the first half of this year continued to be on the “Building Together in Faith” campaign. The Christian Family Life center was completed in early Spring. A short-term loan from Bank West was obtained in order to pay all the contractors in March before all the “BTIF” funds would be collected in May. Although the “BTIF” campaign ended in May, we encouraged our families to continue their commitments for another 6 months to help retire the 56,000 Bank West Loan. Because of your generosity and faithfulness, the Bank West loan totaling 56,000 should be retired in January.

Through your continued commitment in 2010, we were also able to pay our monthly payment and 14 advanced principle payments towards our loan with the District’s Church Extension Fund. So far, the advanced payments have saved us \$66,236.79 in interest on our building loan. Throughout the year, several individual gifts of money and talents have helped with many small projects and to finish some of the classrooms in the Christian Family Life Center.

A goal in the future is to purchase an elevator and after its installation, the Christian Family Life Center can be completely finished. This was all accomplished while continuing to meet our building loan payment, monthly bills, and our mission budget.

We also planned and carried out our Annual Stewardship Emphasis which was entitled “The

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Lifestyles of Faithful Stewards.” Annually we encourage families to prayerfully consider their giving and to strive to become percentage givers. Each year as part of our Emphasis we ask all of our church families to indicate their giving on the “Faith Promise” card and return it sealed in the envelope provided. The “Faith Promise” cards are Dedicated each year on the First Sunday after Epiphany.

We are very thankful for the continued outpouring of generosity towards our church and congregation’s needs and goals throughout 2010. Furthermore, continued thanks the Lord for His endless love and blessings!

The Board of Stewardship is continually thankful to the Lord for:

Each congregation member’s prayerful and steadfast commitment to stewardship;
Marvin Schweigert, our Financial Secretary;
Linda Nill, our Treasurer;
Darin Hodges, our Preschool Financial Secretary; and
All of our dedicated counters who count and post the weekly offerings.

Board of stewardship members are: Carla Heller, Chairman; Gail Ferris, Vice Chairman; Larry Coyle, Treasurer; Steve Kost, Secretary; and John Barber.

Carla Heller
Chairman, Board of Stewardship

FAITH LUTHERAN WEB SITE



The web site for Faith Lutheran was redesigned in the Fall of 2008. The new web site is more

organized and dynamic. It includes a CMS (content management system) which allow our staff, LYF, and others with permission to sign into the website and make changes within their pages, which in turn helps keep the site alive with current information and events about the life of our congregation.

Members can visit the web site to view the weekly bulletin and the monthly calendar. If you have high speed internet access, you may want to check out the weekly sermon, which is digitally converted and uploaded for viewing. The special events section features a photo gallery as well. The e-mail list contains many addresses to whom regular messages are sent. As well as names of our regular members of the church body, the list includes our extended families, friends, past members, vicars and others.

The web site also has received plenty of traffic this year. The bulk of our web traffic is from the United States but also consists of about 10 percent of the sessions coming from over 40 countries including India, Ireland, Canada, Russia, South Korea and Australia.

The cost of the web site hosting and monthly maintenance fees are currently being donated by Dennis & Carolyn Ryckman of Factor 360. Carolyn also works at keeping our site current. Again the web site is: <http://www.faihluth.com> and our e-mail address is faith@faihluth.com



OAHE CABLE ACCESS STATION

Our tape delayed television broadcast can be seen on Wednesday night on Channel 8 at 7:00 p.m. We pay \$500.00 per year plus a weekly fee of \$35.00. Our

Cable Broadcast may be sponsored for \$35.00. This covers the weekly fee. The cost of tapes, equipment, and our annual fee is offset by having more than

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one sponsor per Sunday and we do some budgeting in our General Fund to assist with this.

We are grateful that Oahe Cable also has offered to again broadcast our Christmas Eve Service in 2011.

You may sponsor the Cable Broadcast and Sonrise for \$60.00. We are grateful to our video crew for their time and skills, they are: Dale Heidelberger, John Hepper, Steve Johnson, Mike Leidholt, Terry Leibel, Paul Lepisto, Doug Peterson, Brad Schultz, and Todd Thompson, and to Dennis Ryckman for downloading the weekly Broadcast on our Web Site and taking the DVD weekly to the City.

We are currently having some discussion with Oahe Cable TV about a live Broadcast as well.

SONRISE RADIO BROADCAST



It's live on "Today's KCCR" 1240 on your radio dial at 6:40 a.m. each Sunday. Sonrise had it's

beginning in the mid 1980's. Pastor Rick Hans, our Assistant Pastor, who had some experience with a simulcast on vicarage and Dave Mossner, who was Pierre's KELO reporter, gave this a shot. It has now sustained itself for 22 years.

Each Sunday morning at 6:30 both Pastor Willms and Pastor Urbach roll into the studio for an enjoyable 20 minutes of radio.

Sonrise gives us an opportunity to provide a weekly invitation to Faith Lutheran Church, tell people of special events, share God's Word in song and scripture, and to note some special memories and moments in the life of our families. While our actual expenses for Sonrise are \$50.00, you may sponsor Sonrise for \$30.00. We make up the difference with our multiple sponsors.

PRAYER CIRCLES

We have five Prayer Circles in the congregation. A prayer circle may be used for a time of joy or a time of struggle. Our prayers circles broaden our prayer concern for individuals and families.

You may call any prayer circle to share a prayer concern. Our Prayer Circle Captains are:

Myrna Hartmann	224-7039
Ruth Leidholt	945-1211
Gloris Zoller	224-2805
Donna Leslie	224-1770
Elaine Wagner	224-7640

If you would like to serve on a Prayer Circle, please call our church office.



Seniors' Gathering **FOREVER YOUNG**

Forever Young is a group of men and women in our congregation who are 55 years of age, or somewhere in that area, who gather once a month for a meal and fellowship. Forever Young generally meets on the third Tuesday of the month, except during Lent when they meet on Wednesdays.

- ✱ Forever Young people take time to put Sunday Bulletins together and straighten the pew racks when needed. They play Bunko, bingo, sing for birthdays and anniversaries, and have wonderful fellowship time.
- ✱ On Ash Wednesday, we have our Annual Chicken Feed.
- ✱ In July, we always have our 4th of July picnic lunch. The hot-dogs were provided, and everyone brought a dish to share. We sing some good flag waving songs and play a round of

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Bingo. In August, we usually have our annual fish fry.

We thank those who come early and faithfully get everything set up for Forever Young.

So come join Forever Young!
Invite a friend!



YOUTH GROUP

LYF

Lutheran Youth Fellowship (LYF) is the group at Faith composed of all our youth in 9th-12th grade. We usually meet on Wednesday every week from 8:00 till 9:00 for some discussion time and playing games with one another.

2010-2011 LYF Officers are: Roberta Forman, President; Emily Fredrich, Vice President; Rebekah Hartmann, Treasurer; Brooklyn Voeltz, Secretary; Kelsey Dykstra, Senior Rep.; Mallory Hull, Junior Rep.; Rachel Hartmann, Soph. Rep.; and Devin Kampfe, Freshman Rep.

The Spring of 2010 like most Springs was filled with many events and meals. Lent was kicked off with a great Mardi Gras celebration. The Youth did a great job of decorating the place and setting up and running all kinds of fun games for the kids. It was especially nice to have everything in one big room and was a great blessing. They then served for the Lenten Coffees on Wednesdays following the Lenten services. The kids also put on their traditional Good Friday Potato Supper and the Easter Morning Breakfast as Fundraisers for the LYF. In the middle of this we also took a fun ski

trip to Deer Mountain and stayed at the Church in Deadwood. We had a lot of fun trying to get the van up a snow-covered road at the ski resort.

In Late Spring and Early Summer we found ourselves getting ready for a few major events and trips. The big event was a trip to the National Youth Gathering in New Orleans, LA. It was such a blast! The kids got to see a lot of the town and the damage from Hurricane Katrina. They also spent some time doing a service project and having fun in the Convention Center. I'm not sure what the biggest highlight of all was. It is probably a tie between the 28 hours on a bus and the mass events with 25,000 other kids in the SuperDome. I guess the mass events win!

We started the new school year with a barbecue at my house and elected the new officers for the coming year. In addition to our regular Wednesday meetings the youth were involved with the Trunk 'N' Treat and Country Fair.

As we head into Spring we are again looking forward to events like Mardi Gras and the Lenten Coffees and meals on Good Friday and Easter Morning. There will be some transition this year and the Board of Education and some parents are working to form a plan going forward for LYF. We also are thankful to Michael Shoup who desires to work with the youth as well.

The summer also will bring opportunities like Camp Minneboji June 19th-25th and Circuit Bible Camp tentatively July 11th-14th.

LYF has been a lot of fun in 2010 and all of the years I have been here. I will miss meeting with the kids every week and just having fun with them. It is also a joy to see them grow up. Many of them are sad about my departure and I am sad as well. I hope that they remember the great moments we had

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together and that God will grant them many great moments in the days ahead as He is still in their midst. Thank you for the pleasure of getting to spend time with the youth of this church!

In His Service,

Pastor Willms

OFFICIAL ACTS

Confirmations: Brandon Scott Berheim, Caitlin Nicole Bolte, Morgan Ann Deis, Colton Lee Graves, Matthew Donald Green, LeAndra Elaine Hoefener, Devin Lee Kampfe, Whitney Elizabeth King, Cade Odell Larson, Justin Daniel Meier, Brittney Jane Munyon, Carly Marie Niemann, Jordain Ann Rathbun, Janece Tarea Wetzels, Blake Arthur Widvey, Brandi Lynn Ziebart, Matt Grohs, Jake Kleindl, Amanda Young and Kyle Young.

Baptisms: Sawyer Michael Overweg, Alex John Glynn, Katlyn Gustafson, Adalynn Gustafson, Levaia Rose McCauley, Bryleigh Ann Cornelison, Connor Owen Farnsworth, Benjamin John Craig Saniuk, Aubrie Mae Norman, Ann Marie Tjeerdsma, Jaxon Christopher Dieball, Aspen Renee Lenz, Kaehlyn Danielle Pfeffer, Kiersten Rachele Spencer, Lexi Jane Bales, Josie Rose Bowman, Lyon Daniel Houck, Noah Robert Koch, Amara Mae Garcia, Laela Aletha Kost, Lily Jane Reitzel, Bailey Grae Cuny, and Milla Rose Bertram.

Weddings: Lana Eileen Dahl and Randall Lee Blair, Shane Steven Lehrkamp and Christine Marie Hibbeler, Kevin Scott Kreitman and Donna Kay Parks, Wayne Allan Crawford and Melissa Sue Ann Stewart, Christina Gaalswyk and Seth Norman

Burials: Jonathan Walter Fanger, Maythel LaVonne Erickson, Arthur Erich Schimkat, Jerold

Hirsch, Jeanette Theresa Quinton, Fred H. Duin, Wilma Jochim, Gertrude Marie Mueller, Linda Kay Titze, Susan Wold, Doris Jeanette Weischedel, Norman E. Bierwagen, Kenneth “Jeff” Jeffries, and Helen Anne Weischedel.

ENDOWMENT FUND

Your generous gifts continued to help sustain the mission of the Faith Evangelical Lutheran Endowment Fund in 2010. The principal as of November 14, 2010 is over \$114,845.89.

Since its start the fund has disbursed \$69,3696.29 in interest. In 2010 alone, the fund distributed \$4,493.30. The by-laws require that 15% of the income earnings be dedicated to missions and 15% be dedicated to assisting students studying for full-time church work. To see full disbursements check the 2010 Endowment Report in the Stewardship tract rack.

Your gifts to the Fund are prudently invested in a variety of income-producing investments that support the mission of the Fund. Income for Fund disbursements is generated by the Fund's holdings of CDs, Bonds, and a dividend-paying mutual fund. The Endowment Fund board prayerfully considers investments that will provide steady income and conserve the principal so that your gifts continue to make meaningful contributions to our congregation's mission.

Our Board of Directors are: Carla Heller – Chair, Gail Ferris – Vice Chair, Steve Kost – Secretary,

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Larry Coyle – Treasurer, and Bob Shoup –
 Congregational President.

Sincerely,

Carla Heller
 Chairman, Faith Ev. Lutheran Endowment Fund



BUILDING COMMITTEE

It is amazing how much we have accomplished in the past year! The addition was all done by April. That is unusually fast for a construction project of this size. A big *Thank You* goes to Mike Hohenthauer and Brad Goldstein of Sioux Falls Construction who kept the project on schedule and in budget.

The Building Committee was assisted with the bid process by Sioux Falls Construction, our Construction Manager. The architect was Architecture Inc, from Sioux Falls. Subcontractors were selected in March, and the preconstruction meeting was held April 16, 2009. The subcontractors and suppliers included:

- + Builders Supply Co.
- + Brosz Engineering Inc.
- + Chase Roofing and Sheet Metal
- + Country Carpet and Flooring
- + FM Acoustical tile
- + Fichter/Davey Masonry Construction
- + Glass Products Inc.
- + Leidholt McNeely Leidholt Cooling and Heating
- + Midwest Sealants LLC

- + Morris Inc.
- + P&M Steel Co.
- + Pine Valley Cabinet Co.
- + Sands Drywall Inc.
- + Sharpe Enterprise
- + Todd’s Electric
- + Total Fire Protection
- + Wheelhouse Plumbing
- + Youngberg and Sons Painting
- + Zarecky Midwest Construction.

The Groundbreaking was held on Sunday, May 3, 2009, and the next day work began on the project. Building Committee meetings were held twice a month with the Architect and Sioux Falls Construction. These meetings helped everyone to stay informed, led to quick problem solving, and kept funding issues on track.

The total bid was \$2,941,550 which included \$100,000 in contingency funds. The contingency fund was used for unforeseen items and purchasing add-ons as the project progressed. Some of the items that went into the contingency included: footing issues, capping an abandoned water line, extending the sewer line further than expected, groundwater issues in the northwest corner, adding the masonry cross, adding rebar in the exterior concrete, adding VCT flooring in the Fellowship Hall, adding an elevator pit drain, tying in the south roof drains to the storm sewer system, modifying the new Day Care room, replacing moldy sheet rock in the old Fellowship Hall, adding acoustic tile for the stairwells, and adding cabinets in the work room.

The bid also included a \$25,000 set-aside for heating the building during construction. We were billed the actual amount used, which gave us \$20,000 savings.

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The remainder of work on the project included converting the old fellowship hall and kitchen to Day Care space, and the old offices into the Living Room. There are some exterior items that were finished up in the spring which included getting the entire property landscaped before the Dedication.

The new fellowship hall is painted “Smoke” with a stripe of “Moss”, and the kitchen floor is “Sage”, the countertops are “Loden Zephyr” and the cabinets are Maple. It all sounds very calming, and looks great.

The Day of Dedication was June 6, only 13 months after the Ground Breaking.

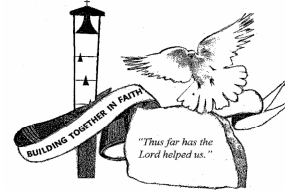
We have been receiving generous gifts to help purchase office furniture, appliances, and the many items it takes to complete the job. Thanks for all of your generosity. You have made our work so much easier.

Thanks also to the Building Committee for all of their hard work:

- + Brent Adney, Vice Chairman
- + Scott Collison
- + Larry Coyle
- + Diane Deis
- + Steve Ingram
- + Jim Russell
- + Loren Schaefer
- + Neil Schochenmaier, Secretary
- + Bob Shoup
- + Forrest Wixon

Ex Officio members are Pastor Brad Urbach, Pastor Levi Willms, Jay Fredrich, Jan Larson (Kitchen Committee Chairperson), and Nick Wulf.

Respectfully submitted:
Laurie Schultz, Chairperson



Fulfillment Committee

The work of the Fulfillment Committee was started in May 2007 as part of the **Building Together In Faith (BTIF)** project. The purpose of this committee is to keep the congregation informed of the progress of the **BTIF** campaign and to encourage continued participation in this project. This committee ended its work in August of 2010.

The members of this committee were: Bill & Tonya Dunn, Bill & Janith Farnham, Steve & Cindy Fiechtner, Steve & Sheila Ingram, Jeff & Deb Karst, Matt & Beth King, Mike & Ann Shoup, Emphasis Directors Scott & Jean Collison, Jerry & Lois Erbe, Randy & Jodi Hartmann, Communications Director Donna Leslie, Congregation Chairman Larry Coyle, and Pastor Urbach.

During the past year, the committee has kept the congregation informed of the progress of the **BTIF** project by providing weekly updates in the church bulletin, adding grape clusters to the grapevine in the narthex as financial milestones were achieved, speaking to the congregation multiple times during the year at church services, and compiling and sending to all congregational families a quarterly **BTIF** newsletter. The gifts and contributions surpassed the \$2.3 million dollar milestone. Thanks be to God!

As part of the “Building Together In Faith” project we added the beautiful plaza area between the two

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major off parking lot entrances. The area, called “Grace Plaza”, is a beautiful addition to the beauty of the campus. Everything in the Plaza was a gift, thus the name, Grace Plaza. It also gave our Ebenezer Stone a permanent home. In 2011, a Flagpole will be added to the Plaza.

“Then Samuel took a stone and set it up between Mizpah and Shen. He named it Ebenezer, saying, ‘Thus far has the Lord helped us.’”
1 Samuel 7:12

This committee was also very much involved in church projects and activities throughout the year. Some of these were:

- providing juice for the 1st Sunday of the month fellowship between services,
- providing “Risen Christ” coins for all members during Lenten season,
- assisting with the meal at the Mardi Gras activity,
- promoting the Lego church display to encourage children to contribute,
- planning the May 3rd “Hoe Down” groundbreaking activities and working

- with the Board of Parish Fellowship to provide the meal on this day;
- providing door prizes and “ice cream slabs” for dessert on Rally Day,
- planning and promoting the “Really Noisy Offering” activity,
- providing the door prizes for Mission Festival,
- planning for the auction and rummage sale that was held in February 2010,
- planning for the Building Dedication held June 6, 2010.
- hosted a Community Open House in August with live music, self-guided tours throughout the entire facility and wonderful home-baked goodies.

It is so encouraging to see the progress that has been made with the entire *BTIF* project and with the Christian Family Life Center.

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Stewardship Report

Range	2007	2008	2009	2010
\$0 - \$50	97	78	72	76
\$50 - \$300	122	93	87	85
\$300 - \$500	33	38	34	43
\$500 - \$1000	66	70	72	74
\$1000 - \$1500	36	37	46	44
\$1500 - \$3000	54	57	55	23
\$3000 - \$4000	18	20	18	38
\$4000 - \$6000	27	27	30	10
\$6000 - \$8000	7	14	14	5
\$8000 - \$10,000	4	2	4	2
\$10,000 - \$12,000	3	3	5	2
\$12,000 - \$14,000	2	5	1	2
\$14,000 - \$16,000	2	2	2	1
\$16,000 - \$18,000	1	0	1	0
\$18,000 - \$24,000	0	0	1	2
\$24,000 - \$26,000	1	0	2	2
\$26,000 - \$33,000	2	0	0	2
\$33,000 - \$51,000	1	0	1	0
\$51,000 - \$105,000	0	1	1	0

We live in a land of plenty, which promotes its own twist on contentment. Its version is “buy and possess.” Our culture is geared far more to the material than the spiritual. Our society tells us that we need and deserve more, and that life is not complete unless we have the finest homes and cars plus wealth and success. We are led to believe that happiness and contentment are within our reach if we just acquire a few more things.

Advertisements are geared to make us feel discontent so that we will buy more things to make us happy.

Greed will not allow contentment, because it always urges us to acquire more. A person can spend a lifetime chasing prosperity that, when found, often destroys him as discussed in the following story:

A ship full of men sailed to an island to look for gold. When they arrived, they divided into two groups. One group would dig for gold; the other would plant crops and prepare the food. As time went on, they found more gold. More of the men who prepared the food began to dig for gold. As more men came to

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the island, most of them also dug for gold. Even the ship was torn apart so the wood could be used to support the mineshafts. The story ends when some time later, people visited the island and found skeletons draped over vast treasures. Greed had taken over; and they had completely missed their meaning and purpose in life.

Money has been called “the god of those who have too much, and the goal of those who have too little.” Blessed indeed is the person who avoids these extremes. Max Anders said it well; “God wants us to have wealth; we must be careful not to settle for money.” Our goal as God’s people is to seek first God’s kingdom and His righteousness. He has promised to take care of our needs.

In the year of our Lord 2010, our total giving as a congregation was \$804,805.67, which is the second highest giving year in the History of our Church, only exceeded by 2009 at \$904,313.28 in the very middle of our Building Project.

Thank you for your steadfast and sacrificial giving that not only has sustained our Building Fund but also maintained the daily life of our congregation.

“God loves a cheerful giver”. Indeed!

