Faith Ev. Lutheran Church

714 N Grand Avenue Pierre, SD 57501 605-224-2216

# 2018 July/August Newsletter

## Circuit Bible Camp



**Who:** This event is open to any youth who will be heading into 5<sup>th</sup> grade through any youth who are going into 9<sup>th</sup> grade.

What: Circuit Bible Camp

When: The dates for Circuit Bible Camp are: July 9-12 under the theme:

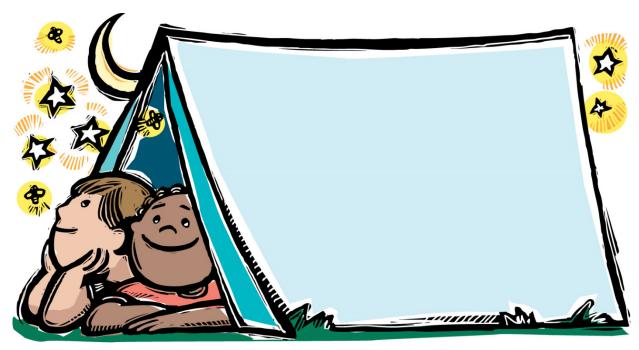
"Nothing Can Separate Us from the Love of God" Romans 8:38-39

Where: The Black Hills of South Dakota.

How Much? Registration costs of \$70, which includes: meals, camping at the KOA in Hot Springs, touring Wind

Cave and hiking Black Elk Peak.

Faith is offering \$30 scholar-ships to any participant looking to attend camp to help offset costs. Please pre-register for this event. Registration sheets can be found in the church office along with a medical release form to be completed and returned to the church office by July 6.



Sent Forth By God's Blessing



"My son, beware of anything beyond these. Of making many books there is no end, and much study is a weariness of the flesh." (Ecclesiastes 12:12)

Ask any college student who has pulled an all-nighter cramming for a test and they'll no doubt confirm the truth of that statement. Solomon's point was this, accruing knowledge is not the most important thing in life. Rather, what is really important is fearing God and keeping His commandments. (Ecclesiastes 12:13-14)

Let's get one thing straight, I'm not saying that education is unimportant. In fact, the Bible tells us that Jesus exposed himself to learning. One of the few things we know of His childhood is that He "grew in wisdom" as He grew "in stature." (Luke 2:52)

Likewise, the church has historically promoted education. Unfortunately, a number of the so-called leading thinkers of our age see the church as an institution which opposes education; often identifying religion in general as a crutch for the weak minded (see author Robert Heinlein, atheist Richard Dawkins, and physicist Stephen Hawking). However, the evidence suggests just the opposite. Many of the most prestigious universities began with a Christian foundation including Yale, Princeton, Harvard, Oxford, and Cambridge. Even the Reformer

Martin Luther taught that edu-"both to understand the Word ture of the world in which the Education, particularly the is extremely important.

Why all this talk about ly at our All Board Workshop, a long hard look at the way we

Train up a child in the way he should go: and when he is old, he will not depart from it. - Proverbs 22:6

cation was essential, of Scripture and the na-Word would take root." education of our youth,

education? Well, recent-I proposed that we take educate our youth. Not

that what we are doing or have done is wrong, rather that we might look for areas of improvement. There are many dedicated volunteer teachers, parents, and students who make each educational year a success. (By the way, I encourage all of you to please remember to keep them in your prayers throughout the year...not only during the school year!) These dedicated people, let alone our students, deserve the very best from the Church's leadership. It is my hope that we will go a great distance in providing an environment that would maximize learning and make their task that much easier and enjoyable.

All true education begins with the reality of God's existence and the fact that He has communicated to us through His Word. As we learn more, our understanding of God's wisdom and power deepens. As we study God's Word, we become more equipped for God's work (2 Timothy 3:16-17). As we grow in our knowledge of God's Son (2 Peter 3:18), our love for Him increases and our service for Him intensifies.

I pray God's blessings upon our ministry at Faith as we look for areas of improvement and upon you as you prepare yourself and your loved ones to learn about your Savior. Amen.

In Service to Christ and Neighbor,

Partor Coy T. Pin

## With Angels and Archangels

The worship service is a sacred time each week when God's people gather to receive His gifts and give Him praise. Throughout the world, and even back into history, God's people have assembled in worship. The form of worship differs from place to place. Parts of worship trace their origin back to the earliest days of Christianity. Some even come from the days of Israel when they gathered in holy feasts to God.

Worship began, in some form, shortly after Adam and Eve sinned and were removed from the Garden of Eden. From Genesis 4:26, "At that time people began to call upon the name of the Lord." It might not sound like today's worship service, but Adam and Eve and their family called upon God's name in prayer and praise. We do the same today as we offer prayers and sing songs of praise. We also hear from God through his Word, especially during the readings and the sermon, and as we celebrate Holy Communion.

Our worship services here at Faith form a continuous line stretching all the way back to Adam and Eve. But they also reach into the future. As we celebrate communion, we joyfully anticipate the day of Christ's return. On that day we will join him in the eternal wedding banquet of his kingdom. The communion prayer shows this hope. "Therefore with angels and archangels, and with all the company of heaven, we laud and magnify your glorious name, evermore praising you and saying..."

Each part of our worship service connects us to the past or to the future. Throughout these newsletter articles, we will discuss the various parts and show that connection. Each of our services start with the Invocation. This short part of worship has two major purposes. It calls upon God to be present with his worshippers, and it reminds those worshippers that God has claimed them in Baptism. By invoking, or calling on God in this way, we ask Him to be present in worship.

The pastor might face either the altar or the people, and each direction has its own meaning. When the pastor faces the altar, it connects us to ancient Israel, when God's presence was linked with the altar. This is heightened in those services when Communion is celebrated, since

Christ is present within the bread and wine. Alternatively, the pastor may face the people. In this case, it reminds us of our baptism. The words of the Invocation are identical to the words of baptism. The Holy Spirit is called upon the descend on his people, just as he does when we baptize.

Whichever direction the pastor faces, the words of the Invocation are a reminder of your own baptism. It is appropriate (but not necessary) to make the sign of the cross on yourself. In making the cross, you remember that identical sign that you received on the day of your baptism. This is the perfect way to begin worship, by remembering that you are part of God's kingdom through your baptism.

The Invocation, this short phrase at the beginning of worship, is full of meaning. We call upon God to be present with his people. We simultaneously remember that we are God's people by recalling our baptism. This prepares us



## TAKE ME TO THE WATER

"Now the earth was formless and empty, darkness was over the surface of the deep, and the Spirit of God was hovering over the waters." Genesis 1:2

There's something about water; something compelling, something transcendent. Water – that clear, colorless liquid – it is the essence of life itself. We know from our classes in life science and biology that the human body is two-thirds water. We need water to survive. It is important to be hydrated to stay healthy.

Take me to the water; take me to the water; Take me to the water, to be baptized.

Water is a sparkling, thematic lifeline that flows through the pages of God's word, from the first verses of Genesis, to the last chapter in Revelation. Water images appear one instance after another, one story after another, and one miracle after another.



Water... cradled a baby in a floating basket;

Water... turning to blood;

Water... gushing from a rock;

Water... divided to make a safe path of escape;

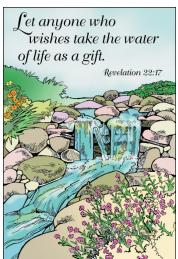
Water... flooding over the earth;

Water... washed over Jesus in the Jordan River

Water... suddenly, mysteriously becomes wine;

Water... offered at the well.

None but the righteous; none but the righteous; None but the righteous, shall be saved.



Jesus offered Living Water of Salvation. The hymn writer Horatius Bonar penned: "Behold, I freely give the living water, thirsty one; stoop down and drink and live.

I came to Jesus, and I drank of that life-giving stream.

My thirst was quenched, my soul revived, and now I live in Him."

Water is part of our beginning; it cushions the unborn child. We are then made pure and cleansed from sin by the waters of baptism. At our ending, the joyful celebration will gather at the River of Life. When the Spirit of God hovered over the water, do you suppose that was a sign for us of how important, how basic, and how symbolic water was to be in our faith journey?

I'm going back home; I'm going back home; gonna stay here no longer; I'm going back home; I'm going back home, to be baptized. (Negro Spiritual)

Keep us coming back to the water, O God, that we may be cleansed, refreshed, and renewed. Amen.

Karen Lindbloom

#### **WOMEN'S FUN**

as worshippers to continue with the service. Those remaining parts will be the topic of future articles. Next time we will consider "Confession and Absolution."

Pastor Handschke

Attention! Attention! Autention! August Fun Night update! Due to an unexpected change, we will not be cruising



on the river in August! Instead, the women of Faith are invited to gather in the Christian Family Life Center for an evening of fun and fellowship. Yvonne Hollenbeck will be presenting "Patchwork on the Prairie" featuring her quilt collection. The date has been changed to Monday, August 6 at 7:00 PM.



#### **FOREVER YOUNG**

The will just



cost be

Seniors' Gathering

\$10.00 which will include a delicious dessert. Sign up will be in the Narthex. Grab a friend and enjoy a night out! Hosted by the LWML.

Who are we? We are a group of busy "Seniors" mostly retired who gather once a month



#### **Diaper Derby**



Faith Life Team's first-ever Pulpit-Lectern Challenge has ended and here are the final tallies: Team Ann

(Pulpit) won the Diaper category with a total of 2693 to Team Andy's (Lectern) 2223. However, Team Andy won the Wipes category with a total of 6,124 to Team Ann's 4,216. The grand totals for both categories were 4,916 diapers and 10, 340 wipes! That is by far the most the Life Team has ever collected in previous Diaper Derbies. We are overwhelmed by your generosity; both cribs literally were filled to overflowing! But the real winners are the parents and babies who you blessed with your gifts. The diapers and wipes have been delivered to Missouri Shores Shelter, PARS and Birthright of Pierre. As a small token of our appreciation, the Life Team would like ALL participants in our Pulpit-Lectern Challenge to register to win one of several fun prizes, including gift cards to

Zesto, Dairy Queen, Pizza Ranch and more! Please stop by our table in the narthex over the next few Sundays and put your name in the jar. We will have the drawing in a few weeks after everyone has had a chance to register. Thanks again for your donations, and for honoring God's precious gift of human life!

In Christ,

Cindy Deadrick, Faith Life Team leader





August 20, 2018 12:00-5:30 pm

To make an appointment Go to:

bloodhero.com/pierrefaith



#### **Thrivent Choice Dollars**

Funds are available for distribution from the Stewardship Board for anyone making a request for a project needed at Faith Lutheran Church.

Please contact any of the Board of Stewardship with ideas or call the church office at 224-2216.

#### Living As Pilgrims

Our society tells us to live for today. The words from a poster "Forget about the PAST; Don't worry about the FUTURE; Live TODAY!" captures our society's encouragement to live for the moment with gusto because there is no tomorrow. In contrast, we, as God's people, are encouraged to live with an eternal perspective. The Apostle Paul encourages us to set our minds on things above, not on earthly things (Colossians 3:2). We are told that God "has put eternity into Jour] hearts" (Ecclesiastes 3:11). Through faith, we live our lives knowing that heaven is our true home. According to the writer of Hebrews, we are aliens and strangers on this earth (11:13). In Philippians 3:20, Paul tells us that we are citizens of heaven not earth.

In order for us to be citizens of heaven, aliens, strangers and pilgrims on this earth, we can't allow the accumulation of things to distract us from our relationship with Jesus. As God's people, we can have and enjoy comfortable homes and cars, but we need to be careful that we don't become too attached to the blessings God gives us. We are to possess our possessions rather than let our possessions possess us. We must be on guard not to let anything demand so much of our time, energy, and money that the relationships we have with the Lord will suffer.

The words of Martin Luther encourage us not to become attached to the things of this world.

Therefore we must use all these things upon earth in no other way than as a guest who travels through the land and comes to a hotel where he must lodge overnight. He takes only food and lodging from the host, and he says not that the property of the host belongs to him. Just so should we also treat our tem-

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poral possessions, as if they were not ours, and enjoy them only so much of them as we need to nourish the body and then help our neighbors with the balance. Thus the life of the Christian is only a lodging for the night, since we have here no continuing city, but must journey on to heaven, where the Father is.

With the same indifference to material things, Jesus sent out the 72 disciples into the harvest field (Luke 10:1-12). In their journey, they sort of resembled pilgrims. For pilgrims, material possessions are valuable only as they help their mission. A pilgrim will not want to carry a lot of things around because they would slow him down. A pilgrim chooses possessions rather carefully so as to be able to travel lightly. If he foolishly accumulates things, he will find it more difficult to reach his destination.

With God's help, we can put our trust in the Lord and not in our possessions, and we can live as pilgrims here on earth, ever looking forward to the eter-



nity God has placed in our hearts.

For our citizenship is in heaven, from which we also eagerly wait for the Savior, the Lord Jesus Christ.

Philippians 3:20 (NKJV)

## Faith Lutheran Youth Page

#### Acolyte Schedule July/August 2018



Colossians 3:17 "And whatever you do, whether in word or deed, do it all in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through Him."

July 1

Early: Shelby Roman, Carissa Ott Late: Kamden Carter, Kaycee Carter

July 8

Early: Adam and Hannah Schochenmaier Late: Maria Noyes, Addison Cumbow

July 15

Early: Austin Fawcett, Natalie Fawcett Late: Madyson Titze, Daysen Titze

July 22

Early: Andrew Axdahl, Kennady Hanig Late: Cassidy Miller, Casey Keller



July 29

Early: Kaylie Rathbun, Ain Peterson Late: Ladd Kramme, Lane Kramme

August 5

Early: Dayna Martinmaas, Emiley Rajek Late: Megan Pease, Brilie Schulz

August 12

Early: Samantha Axtell, Ellie Smith Late: Molly Neyhart, Reagan Spomer

August 19

Early: Elliot Leif, Taylor Warriner Late: Nathan Shoup, Samantha Zeltinger

#### MARK YOUR CALENDARS!

Midweek Parent's Meeting for Wednesday, September 5<sup>th</sup>!!! There will be a parent's meeting Wednesday, September 5<sup>th</sup> for parents of Midweek students in grades 2-8. At least one parent or guardian is expected to attend. The parent's meeting is 6:30 p.m. at Faith in the church sanctuary. Youth are not required to attend, just one of their parents or legal guardians. This is an opportunity to ask questions, meet teachers, see rooms, pay for materials, and cover expectations for the year. Midweek will begin Wednesday, Sept. 12.

RALLY DAY – Sunday, September 9<sup>th</sup>! Join us at Faith Lutheran on this special Sunday as we celebrate the start of Sunday School, watch the special moment when 2<sup>nd</sup> graders receive their new Bibles, enjoy a meal at noon provided by our board of Parish Fellowship, with the congregation providing salads and desserts, and have opportunities for the kids including games in the Christian Family Life Center courtesy of the Board of Education. We look forward to seeing you



