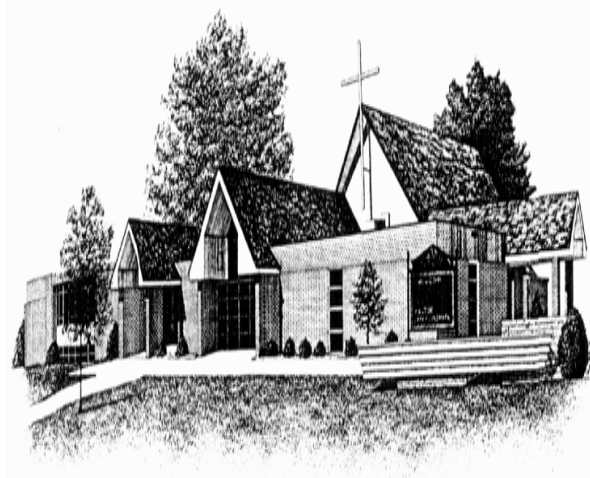


# AMBASSADOR



GRACE • GIFTED  
FAITH • LIFTED  
called to share,  
seek and serve

CHRIST

## **Faith Lutheran Church**

500 W. LeClaire Road  
Eldridge, IA 52748  
(563) 285-4501

Rev. Dan Mixdorf

**July  
2010**

**FAITH LUTHERAN CHURCH WEB ADDRESS & E-MAIL**  
**[www.faithlutheraneldridge.com](http://www.faithlutheraneldridge.com)**  
**[faitheldridge@netins.net](mailto:faitheldridge@netins.net)**

## From Pastor Dan,

[The following article is “tongue-in-cheek” so read it for your own amusement. However, like all such articles it is also based on an element of truth so don’t miss the message either.]

During the past year or so we have lamented, discussed, and wondered about the decrease in worship attendance, Sunday School and youth group attendance. We also have heard stories about how some families have left Faith or are considering doing so. Well, I would like to offer to you a solution that would solve all our attendance, membership and economic problems. Let us change the name of our congregation from *Faith Evangelical Lutheran Church* to *Chicago Cubs Lutheran Church*. Think about it!

With the exception of the Iowa Hawkeyes (which I was originally going to use for this illustration but I value my life too much) no other team receives as much loyalty as the Cubs. Here is a team that can lose consistently, can’t seem to hold on to a lead if their life depended upon it, whose anthem is “Wait ‘til next year” and yet their fans stay loyal to the team. Perhaps if our name was *Chicago Cubs Lutheran Church* we would receive the same loyalty.

We would never have to worry about attendance. Year after year, game after game, no matter the weather, no matter the team record, the stands are filled at Wrigley. The bleacher seats are filled to the brim no matter how far away from home plate they are or how hot the sun is that is beating down on them. Heck, the buildings across the street even have bleachers on them and they are filled most of the time. Wouldn’t it be great if our attendance were like Christmas and Eater every weekend?

Not only are the seats filled at Wrigley Field but those who attend pay top dollar to fill those seats. In a recent article in the Quad-Cities Times it was reported that Cub tickets are the highest in the league. Where some teams average as low as \$14 per seat the average Cub seat goes for \$56 – no matter how many errors they have, how many blown games they create, or how many times multi-million dollar ball players continue to strike out.

Not only that, have you ever bought a hot dog or soda at the stadium? Just think, if we were *Chicago Cubs Lutheran Church* we could charge a nice fee for a seat (the back pews going for a much higher price of course). We could charge \$4.50 for each communion wafer (or piece of communion bread) with an small extra fee for dipping it into the wine or grape juice. And when we would use the communion glasses we could charge \$3.00 a glass (perhaps we could have three different sizes). And people would be happy to pay!

No. This probably wouldn’t work. But it was a nice dream to have.

*Pastor Dan*



## SPECIAL NOTES:

### **Emergency Calls During Pastor Dan’s Absence—**

During the month of July Pastor Dan will be taking two weeks’ vacation. During the last week of July he will be traveling with the high school mission trip team to Vermont. If you have an emergency and are in need of pastor care during his absence you may contact the following pastors:

Rev. Dan Witkowski (309) 764-3517

Rev. Gaylor Nelson (563) 785-4936

Rev. Alfred Koshade (563) 388-5929

**Be watching for an announcement regarding a new form of worship—**In the month of August, Pastor Dan will be introducing to the Worship and Music Committee, and anyone else who would like to come, a new form of worship. He is calling it EWorship (i.e. Electric Worship).

Watch for your August newsletter for further details.

**Remember our mission team in your prayers—**Twelve high school students and three adults will be traveling to Rutland, Vermont for a mission trip the week of July 24 – August 1. Pray that God will lead them in learning about life, love, service and faith. Pray that their travels will be safe.

**Updated Church Directory—**This summer we will be updating our Faith Lutheran Church directory. This is the time to notify the church office if there are any corrections that need to be made ie. address or telephone number changes, misspelling, etc..

## **WE WELCOME THE FOLLOWING NEW MEMBERS TO OUR FAITH FAMILY**

Brad and Shari Bodah  
Bryan and Alexis Yanke  
Rev. Alfred and Beatrice Koschade  
Dorothy Gibson  
Tom Bauer  
Julie Maloney  
Brett and Shannon Mandsager  
Betty Hamilton  
Adam, Michelle and Delaina Ott  
Heather Goettsch

## 11 Principles of Family Values

by Dr. Kevin Leman

(These principles are found in Dr. Leman's parenting class DVD entitled *How To Make Your Children Mind Without Losing Yours*. Statements found in quotes will be from Dr. Leman. Otherwise they are words from Pastor Dan.)

- #1: Be willing to make tough decisions.
- #2. Get kids out of some activities.
- #3. Raise your own children.
- #4. Realize that people are more important than things.
- #5: Discipline
- #6: Take your children to your place of worship.
- #7: Have dinner together as a family.
- #8: Realize your kids don't necessarily need what you didn't have as a child.
- #9: Turn off your television.
- #10: Walk it! Don't talk it!
- #11: You can't run your life on your feelings.

In this last article Dr. Leman may touch on the most sensitive aspects of parenting in that it may make a connection to a real touchy point. It seems as if many people parent not out of their faith, not out of their own experiences, not out of common sense, logic and reason but out of their feelings or emotions.

Isn't love a feeling? And isn't everything a parent does based on their love for their child? Love is not the feeling or emotion we are addressing here. Actually, it is out of our love for our children that we need to parent from our faith and from our brain rather than from our feelings.

OK, what am I talking about? It's the growing belief that we make parental decisions based on what is going to make little "Johnny" or "Susie" "happy" rather than what is truly in their best interest. We tell them they don't have to worship with the family because we don't want to upset them. We buy them all the things they want because it will make them "happy." We allow family rules to be bent, if not broken, because we are tired of the battles. It seems as if the main goal of modern parenting is for everyone to simply get along without any conflicts, challenges or difficult choices; without accountability, responsibility or commitment, because our feelings tell us that those things put too much stress on everyone. "Feelings" tell us to make life as simple as possible.

Yes, I may be over simplifying everything and I may have unfairly bunched all parents together. But there can be no argument to say that

parenting is tough. It calls for many, and continual, choices – tough choices. We need to use our brains, logic, wisdom and experience, all led by that high calling by God to be the spiritual leaders of the family. This ain't easy! But our children, our families, our society would be better off if we parent with our spirit and our brain and not by our feelings.

This concludes our series. I hope you have benefited by it. It would also be helpful to me to know if this type of addition to our newsletter is worth the space and extra ink. If you would like to give me your input email me at [pastordan@netins.net](mailto:pastordan@netins.net).

### PAINTING VOLUNTEERS NEEDED Saturday, July 3 8:00 a.m.

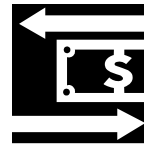
Bring your own brush if you wish or we will supply one. This is exterior painting and is subject to weather conditions. Work as long or as little as you wish.

Pay: Pitiful. Satisfaction: Great. Company: Fantastic.  
Please come and help us.



### Make Us Laugh . . . .

Women of Faith invite you to polish up your favorite joke, comical story or poem and make us all laugh as we celebrate National Joke Day on Monday, August 16 at 10:00 a.m. here at Faith. Will you earn a snicker-doodle or lemon-ade?



### FINANCE INFORMATION

Monthly amount needed to meet the 2010 budget: \$33,504.00  
May Offerings/loose: \$ 29,414.15  
May Expenses: \$ 24,239.89

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May building fund contributions: \$ 2,313.55  
Current loan balance: \$ 244,555.55

**JULY FAITH FAMILY: SARAH**

**Family Head:** Mike and Annette Tomlinson 285-7017

**August Family Group:** Timothy Kevin and Diane Krebs 285-9842

<u>Date</u>	<u>Ushers</u>	<u>Greeters</u>	<u>Reader</u>	<u>Communion</u>	<u>Offering Counters</u>
Sat, July 3	Jean Hanson and Arlene Glunz		Suzanne Braack	Suzanne Braack	Mike and Rita Smith
Sun, July 4 (9:00)	Dale and Suzanne Braack	Greg and Debbie McCracken	Joni King	Gary King	Janet Kluever and Carol Judge
Sat, July 10	Carolyn Smith and Ida Weibel		Carolyn Hulsen	Carolyn Hulsen	Melody Sawvell and Deb Andresen
Sun, July 11 (9:00)	Dennis and Janet Krambeck	The Durant family	Kristin DeVries	Kathy Durant	Earl and Dorothy Kuhl
Sat, July 17	John and Jill Kuhl		Kathy Durant	Terry Fenn	Bill and Cheryl Sosnowski
Sun, July 18 (9:00)	Heather Duncan and Mike Tomlinson	Robert and Brittney Larson	Mike Tomlinson	Annette Tomlinson	Dale and Mary Moore
Sat, July 24	John and Jill Kuhl		Kristin DeVries	Lorenz Behrens	Kelly Hazen and Joan Hennigan
Sun, June 25 (9:00)	Dennis and Janet Krambeck	Greg and Debbie McCracken	Mike Tomlinson	Annette Tomlinson	Ken and Sue Oetzmann
Sat, July 31	Arlene Glunz and Terry Fenn		Cindy Morgan	Cindy Morgan	Bob and Carol Kuehl

**JULY VOLUNTEERS**

**ALTAR COMMITTEE**

Lynda Miller Chairperson  
 Donna Knapper  
 Deb Andresen  
 Karen Schmitt  
 Sue Sissel  
 Cathy Diaz  
 Shirley Stoltenberg  
 Michele Olson

**NURSERY VOLUNTEERS**

**Bear Group**

Jackie Snyder, team leader  
 Kelly Hazen  
 Aymee Patton  
 Amy Powell  
 Courtney Davison  
 Tiffany Knisley

**BREAD BAKER July 3/4**

Debbie McCracken

**ACOLYTES AND CRUCIFERS**

July 4: (9:00) Kiersten Breneman and Katie Hazen  
 July 11: (9:00) Mykenzie Carmody  
 July 18: (9:00) Rodney Drechsler  
 July 25: (9:00) Cordell Eaton



**MISSIONARY SPONSORSHIP** Thank you to Ida Weibel who is sponsoring Baraka in July and to Myron and Carolyn Scheibe who are sponsoring the Stadlander's this month. The cost for missionary sponsorship is \$40/month and \$38/month for Baraka.



## WOMEN OF FAITH

**All Women of Faith** are invited to join a group for Bible Study, friendship and fun. There are several times; just drop in or call a group leader for more information.

**Deborah Group:** 3rd Thursday at 1:00 p.m. at the church.  
No meeting this month—Contact Elda Ewoldt at 285-7322.

**Hannah Group:** 4th Thursday at 7:00 p.m. at members homes.  
This month: July 22 —Contact Lynda Miller 285-8613.

**Lydia Group:** Last Thursday at 7:00 p.m. at church.  
No meeting this month—Contact Jeanne Willems 285-7343.

**Christian Action Quilting:** 3rd Tuesday of the month at 9:00 a.m. at the church. No meeting this month. We will start meeting again in August.

### “SUMMER DINING” - Thursday, July 8 at 5:30 p.m.

All Women of Faith are invited to Dining at the Inn at the Village Inn on Brady Street in Davenport. Come join us for an enjoyable evening.

### BASKET MAKING

**Saturday, July 24 9:00 a.m.—4:00 p.m.**

Looking for a fun one day activity? Come join us to make a basket. The basket is on display in the church office. It is for a beginner to intermediate level. The cost of the materials is \$10.00. You will need a ruler, scissors, small screw driver, towel and clothespins. Sloppy Joes and a drink will be provided for lunch. Bring a side dish to share. So that kits can be made, the deadline to sign up is July 18. The sign-up sheet is on the bulletin board in the narthex or contact Linda Szemkus at 282-9785.

### SUMMER BIBLE STUDY

**Saturday, July 31 from 9:00 a.m. until 3:00 p.m.**

The theme for the Summer Bible Study will be “Pray Always”. We will explore three aspects of prayer. We will look at the importance of being persistent in prayer, explore the relationship between prayer and waiting, and seek to understand the power of prayer to change us. Join us for refreshments at 9:00 a.m.. We will start the Bible study at 9:30 a.m.. Lunch will be provided for \$5.00. So we can have enough materials for everyone, please sign up on the sheet posted in the narthex.

Faith's Lynda Miller is the current president of the Southeast Iowa Synodical Women's Organization of the ELCA. She shared two of the resources she was given at last winter's Conference of Presidents with the Women of Faith board members. We'd like to make the information available to all of the women of Faith Lutheran Church.

One of the handouts is entitled "Keeping Your Boat Afloat" and is the Who? What? When? and Where? of the Women of the ELCA. It lists many of the organizations and resources of W/ELCA.

The other handout is for those who enjoy exploring the Internet. It is entitled "Where Can I Go from the Sidebar on the Women of the ELCA Website?" and diagrams the different resources found at [www.WomenOfTheElca.org](http://www.WomenOfTheElca.org).

We hope you'll glance through both handouts and become a little more familiar with *your* W-ELCA.

Come join in the fun and discover God's love!

### “Faith Round-up” Vacation Bible School

July 25-29, 2010  
6-8:30 p.m.

Children age 2 (with an adult) through students currently in 5<sup>th</sup> grade are invited to join the fun in Vacation Bible School this year. Many volunteers will be needed to make this program a success! Volunteers are needed to serve as Tour Guides (group leaders), Chuckwagon Supervisors (snack), Rodeo Leaders (games/activities), Campfire Leaders (story time), Cowpoke Craft Leaders,

and help with Opening/Closing Round-up (songs and prayer time) each day. Registration forms are now available. If you are interested in helping, please contact Annette Tomlinson at 285-7017.

### We are in need of the following items to be used for crafts at VBS.

**Paint Shirts**—We are requesting shirts that button down the front.

**Old Blue Jeans**—We are in need of the back pockets of old blue jeans. Kids sizes to adult are needed.

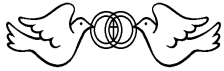
**Nuts/Bolts/Washers**—Larger sizes of these materials are needed for a children's project. Please, no rusty or very small items.

Items can be dropped off in the bins located in the narthex area of the church.

# July Birthdays

Birthday wishes are extended to the following members who are celebrating birthday number 70 or above.

Dorothy Kundel	July 2	Shirley Danforth	July 21
Marie Tombergs	July 8	Kay Friederichs	July 21
Beverly Petersen	July 13	Sally Puls	July 24
Nancy Jenkins	July 18	Delmar Albrecht	July 26
Becky Stutt	July 19	Allan Kluever	July 30



## Anniversaries

We have two couples celebrating their 54th wedding anniversary this month. Congratulations to Delmar and Helen Albrecht whose anniversary is July 15 and to Earl and Dorothy Kuhl whose anniversary is on July 21.

Keep in your prayers . . .

. . . those recently hospitalized this past month: Nancy Jenkins, Elizabeth Randall, Barb Parmenter and Jim Schneider.

## July Needs for the North Scott Food Pantry

In July the Pantry will be accepting donations of school supplies to be distributed to the 7 North Scott School buildings. Any surplus garden produce is also being accepted.

### Lunch Bunch Tuesday, July 20 —Noon

We meet at New Hong Kong in Eldridge. Come enjoy delicious Chinese food and wonderful fellowship.

NEWLY



BAPTIZED

In June we celebrated the baptism of Evan Brian Klinkenberg.

## THANKS & APPRECIATION

Thank you to the wonderful group who assembled our June newsletter: Janet Nagle, Dorothy Watson, Lois Muhs, Marilyn McCammant, Lois Klever, Aaron and LaVonne Fruechtenicht and Elda Ewoldt.