

STAND UP FOR HEALTH CARE

Concern about access to health care is the number one domestic issue, according to recent polls. This is the third time in the last two decades that health care has risen to such prominence as an issue. Each time the pressure mounts the politicians all promise health care reform. And yet we never get it. Why is that?

This year in Connecticut the one thing that seemed certain when the legislature opened its session was a comprehensive health care bill. It was not a question of “whether” but a question of “which one”. But now as the session nears its closing, health care legislation is dead. Or so says the *Hartford Courant*.

I was with a delegation of clergy at the Capital who presented a petition demanding comprehensive health care reform this year. The petition, signed by 500 clergy so far, was presented to the Governor, the Speaker of the House, and the President of the Senate.

As clergy, we believe that access to health care is a basic human right which must be available to all. No decent society can do less. And yet two of these three high ranking officials of our state say that health care legislation cannot pass this year. Why is that?

When it's a moral imperative to provide health care, when a majority of the people wants it done and when the lack of access the health care is leaving hundreds of thousands of our neighbors to fend for themselves if they are sick, how come we can't get a bill enacted?

Well, it's the money or course. A comprehensive, single payer health reform bill cleared the necessary committee and was on its way to votes in both chambers until the estimators slapped an 18 billion dollar price tag on it. Now it's dead. Or so says the *Hartford Courant*.

I have to admit that 18 billion is a lot of money. But it is considerably less than what we pay for health care already in Connecticut. That's right. In 2004, the last year for which statistics are available, the cost of health care in Connecticut was 22 billion dollars.

So, for 22 billion dollars we got a system in which 150,000 people were not covered at all. And another 150,000 people had Husky or Medicaid coverage but were refused treatments because doctors and hospitals say they can't afford to work for what those programs pay. That's what we got for 22 billion.

So if we can get a single payer system that covers everybody (and guarantees access to treatment) for 18 billion, we get what we need and we get it at a 20% savings. 18 billion is a lot of money but its 20% less than what we already spend and it can buy us a better system. And yet the legislation is dead for this year. Why is that?

The reason this keeps happening to us is that we keep taking it. It's time to let it be known that access to health care for all people is not a luxury we wish we could afford.

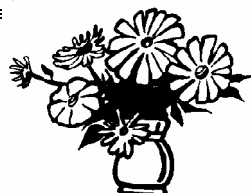
It is a necessity. Not only can we have it, we can afford it. In fact, it's a significant savings.

That's why I participate in the Interfaith Fellowship for Universal Health Care. That's why I went to the Capital to lobby our leaders for legislation. And that's why I will be at the STAND UP FOR HEALTH CARE Rally on May 5 at Bushnell Park in Hartford at 11 am. (for more information go to healthcare4every1.org)

If we remain silent, 300,000 of our neighbors remain outside the health care system to fend for themselves. Let's stand up for them.

Henry Morris, Pastor

**ALL ARTICLES FOR THE JUNE VOICE OF FAITH NEED TO BE IN THE OFFICE
BY MAY 20TH**



Please keep the following people in your prayers:

Bill Scheimer Walter Schoenfeld Elsie Benjamin Ed Larson Lucille Brooks
Karen Lamontagne-O'Brien Charles Benoit Marlene Nixon



04	Raj Koti	20	Lauren Kummer
	Jeffrey Warren		Juanita Ryea
	Lori Marineau	23	John Doyle
06	Donna Kirby	24	Hans DePold
	Pat Sack	25	Kyle DePold
08	Elaine Jaworski	29	Anna (DePold) Hohler
	Henry Rempt		Sandy Chu
	Beth Warren	30	Carrie Cameron
09	Paul Edinger		Luke Edinger
10	Taylor Lynn Kenyon	31	Betty Pearson
	Fred Schoenfeld		
12	Stephen Jaworski		
14	Kimberly Parkany		
	Matthew Scoles		

Congregational Meeting – May 13, 2007

Please plan to attend a brief but important special congregational meeting on May 13, 2007 immediately following the 10:30 service. At that time we will vote on authorizing the church treasurer to borrow funds from the Clergy Housing Loan Fund if necessary to cover approved budgeted expenses in the remainder of 2007.

New Address for Tyronne Robinson
c/o BRAUN Rosita
Amenabar 1370 Planta Baja C
(1426) Belgrano, Buenos Aires Argentina
Tyronne is studying in Argentina until November.

Faith Council Structure:

COUNCIL PRESIDENT

Kent Tedford

DIVISION I VICE PRESIDENT

Hans DePold

DIVISION II VICE PRESIDENT

Annette Bolt

COUNCIL SECRETARY

Barbara Lewis

DIVISION I COMMITTEES

Worship and Music:

Beth Godwin

Christian Education:

Janet Holowczak

Sarah Jaworski

Youth:

Kent Tedford

Evangelism:

Susan DePold

Joyce Lamontagne

Social Ministry:

Tom Benoit

Donna Hubbs

Youth Deacons

Eric Bolt

Ron Hart

DIVISION II COMMITTEES

Stewardship:

Joe Carlson

Finance:

Jim Bevins

Kurt Christensen

Property:

Jay Stolzenthaler

Publicity:

Peter Carlson

Mutual Ministry:

Janina Johnkoski

Prayer Blanket Ministry:

Linda Woodrow

Caryn Furbush

Friendship Center Coordinator needed. Members of Faith Lutheran Church serve dinner to approximately 50 people the first Friday of every month at the Friendship Center, the East Hartford Interfaith Ministries' soup kitchen, housed at St. John's Episcopal Church on the corner of Burnside Avenue and Main Street in East Hartford. Meals are served 4 times a week overall. The coordinator needs to make sure we have enough volunteers on each time, make sure each team has a team captain, and verify each month that our team is ready to work. We are also hoping to get a few of you who have worked at the Center for so long, to train some new people. Please see Tom Benoit or Donna Hubbs if you are willing to serve as Coordinator. It is not a cumbersome project, but is a necessary one. Thanks!

Worship and Music for May

May 6th – Fifth Sunday of Easter

Acts 11:1-18
Psalm 148
Revelation 21:1-6
John 13:31-35
Hymns #384, 358, 631

May 20th – Seventh Sunday of Easter

Acts 16:16-34
Psalm 97
Revelation 22:12-14, 16-17, 20-21
John 17:20-26
Hymns # 655, 463, 826

May 13th – Sixth Sunday of Easter

Acts 16:9-15
Psalm: 67
Revelation 21:10, 22-22:5
John 14:23-29
Hymns #380, 842, 848

May 27th – Day of Pentecost

Acts 2:1-21
Psalm 104
Romans 8:14-17
John 14:8-17 [25-27]
Hymns # 786, 400, 729

AT YOUR SERVICE: May

<u>Sunday</u>	<u>Reader</u>	<u>Ushers</u>	<u>Greeters</u>	<u>Communion Assistants</u>
May 6 th	Merlin Christiansen	Tom Benoit Kendra Dubiel	Hans & Susan DePold	Caryn Furbush Linda Woodrow
May 13 th	Sarah Jaworski	Barbara Lewis Melissa Golden	Donna & Dennis Hubbs	Craig Bolt Kent Tedford
May 20 th	Norman Banta	Bob and Kathy Neumeister	Adell Kenyon Tom Benoit	Carla and Jay Stolzenhaler
May 27 th	Fred Schoenfeld	Peter Carlson Martha McKerley	Diana McVicker Eleanor Warren	Joyce Lamontagne Cathy Kay

Teller Schedule

May 6 - Jay Stolzenhaler & John Holowczak	June 10 – Jay Stozenthaler & John Holowczak	July 8 – Jay Stolzenhaler & John Holowczak
May 13 – Craig Bolt & Keryl Robinson	June 17 – Craig Bolt & Keryl Robinson	July 15 – Craig Bolt & Keryl Robinson
May 20 – Chuck Sack & Steve Jaworski	June 24 – Chuck Sack & Steve Jaworski	July 22 – Chuck Sack & Steve Jaworski
June 3 – Jim Bevins & Lynn Tobin	July 1 - Jim Bevins & Lynn Tobin	July 29 – Jim Bevins & Lynn Tobin

Holy Week Recaps...

We would like to thank everyone who made Holy Week so special. At the risk of missing someone we would like to personally thank the following people:

- Jennifer Carlson and Evan and Sarah Jaworski for leading our parade musically and majestically on Palm Sunday and the youth bell choir for helping add to the joyousness of the celebration
- Jennifer Morales for playing so beautifully on Maundy Thursday, Good Friday and Easter Sunday
- The Faith Choir for all of their hard work and dedication during the entire Lenten season – for coming to potluck and staying through choir rehearsal and for offering their talents on a regular basis
- Fred Schoenfeld and his group of ringers: Marjorie Coons, Jennifer Morales, and Megan Godwin, who added just the right touch at the Easter Vigil and on Easter Sunday
- Susan Lionberger for all of her hard work during the Lenten season, including choir rehearsal, arranging special music, work with the youth ringers and all her hours of preparation
- Pastor Morris for suggesting and organizing an inspiring week of worship, for inviting his friend Gary to play on Easter Sunday, playing the organ at the Easter Vigil, and preparing an informative Lenten series
- The foot washing participants – Eric Bolt, Janina and Robbie Johnkoski, Keryl Robinson, Kent Tedford, Marjorie Coons, Merlin Christiansen, David Godwin, Emily Holowczak, Norman and Cindy Banta, Carol Meskill, Karen Furbush and Lois Furbush and to Pastor Morris for washing them!
- The readers who added special dimension during the Holy Week services – Janina Johnkoski, Joe Carlson, Annette Bolt, Brian Godwin, Marjorie Coons, members of the Youth Group, Chuck and Pat Sack and Kathy Ricciardelli
- Melissa Carlson, and Fred and Doris Schoenfeld and the Sunday School for the beautiful flowers
- The property committee and everyone who came to clean up the church in preparation for our journey
- The acolytes, ushers, greeters, communion assistants and altar guild workers who were all flexible and helpful during services which were much different from our typical worship service
- The members of Faith who faithfully attended and graciously participated in all of the activities especially the new Easter Vigil service

For those who celebrated the entire week with us, it was truly a meaningful journey.

In addition to these wonderful events, we had a fantastic concert on March 25th which followed an open house about the stained glass windows. This was a wonderful event which brought together members of our congregation, members of Crossroads, followers of Dave Giardina, as well as others. Special thanks to Joe Carlson, Hans and Susan DePold, Doris Schoenfeld and the Youth Group for all of their work in organizing and running the event. If you missed it, don't worry you will have a chance to see another concert at Faith. On May 20th, Pastor Morris' friend Gary will share some more of his talented violin playing with us at 4:00 in the afternoon. Look for your chance to help with this event. Also, look for upcoming information about next year's Faith Concert Series.

Beth Godwin, Chair, Worship and Music Committee

Easter Breakfast Quiz: What does 26 years plus 1 year equal?

The answer is a new tradition! Take Norm Banta's 26th year of cracking over 200 eggs and combine it with Peter Godwin's 1st year at the skillet scrambling those eggs and that gives us a great new tradition.

My thanks go to all of those who assisted this year with the Easter breakfast. First of all, thanks to Russ Larson who left me a detailed list of what (and how much) to buy, and a "minute by minute" playbook for Easter morning itself. Thanks to Fred Schoenfeld for guiding me through Sam's Club to purchase all of the food and to all those who helped set up Sat night. On Easter morning, besides Norm and Cindy Banta we had Peter Carlson, Kent Tedford, Jay Stolzenthaler, Eric Bolt, John and Kathy Ricciardelli, and Brian Godwin doing great work in the kitchen. Serving was handled by the Youth Group with Kaitlyn Brennan, Jen Carlson, Taylor Kenyon, Matt Kenyon, and Megan Godwin doing a fantastic job.

We hope everyone enjoyed the breakfast.

Craig Bolt

Office Hours:

Monday - Closed

Tuesday - 8:30 - 12:00

Wednesday - 8:30 - 12:00

Thursday - 8:30 - 12:00

Friday - 8:30 - 11:30

The answering system we use at the office allows a message to be left even while we are on the phone. Please remember that if you call the office and do not reach someone, to leave a message. There are times when we may be in another part of the building, or talking with someone in the office. If you have an emergency after hours and need to reach someone, please call Pastor Morris at home @ 203-389-2585 or Kathy @ 860-803-9415. Occasionally my hours in the office will require some flexibility, but we will do the best we can to make sure someone is there during the posted hours. If you would be willing to volunteer to come in from time to time, on an "as needed" basis, please let me know. Thanks, Kathy

Stand up for Health Care!!

Saturday, May 5th 11:00 AM - 1:00 PM

Bushnell Park - Hartford

healthcare4every1.org

We would like to introduce a new committee whose purpose is to encourage and support the members of Faith Lutheran Church. This committee will be responsible for the following activities:

- ❖ Maintain a **Prayer Chain** of members and their friends and families. This chain will include people on the list read during church as well as anyone who wishes to be added without being added to that list. To be included, or to include someone you know, let us know who and why. The who will include the name, if wanted, or could just be listed as: “the friend of Susie.” The why can be as specific as you wish. It does not need to include any details which should remain private – it could just be “Susie’s friend needs encouragement.” We’ll pray and God will know the rest.
- ❖ Maintain a list of members who need to be visited and a list of those willing to visit. If you know of someone in the congregation who could use a visit, maybe even a little help, just let us know and we will make sure someone checks in on them.
- ❖ Writing cards of encouragement to members in need. If a visit seems like too much and a prayer is not enough, you can request that a card be sent, or even a phone call be made. We know that we will all call on our friends if we haven’t seen them, but sometimes a word from someone else that they have been missed will make all the difference.
- ❖ Provide meals to individuals or families in need of a little help. If you know of someone who could use some help with a meal – maybe they had a baby, or their spouse is in and out of medical treatment, or they broke an arm or a leg – whatever the case may be, let us know and we will organize some people to bring them regular meals during the time that they are needed.
- ❖ Maintain a list of drivers to provide transportation for members to church functions. We will have a list of people willing to help so all the person in need of the ride has to do is contact us and we will find someone to help them out.

We want to make sure that people do not leave Faith because they feel disconnected and unwanted. The purpose of this committee is to try to make sure that everyone feels wanted and loved. That everyone who wants to be involved in worship and other activities can be.

You can become involved without attending any meetings. Look for your chance to sign up to volunteer for any of the above activities. In the meantime, if you know of anyone in need of our support, do not hesitate to let us know. Do not think that someone else will do it, because they may be thinking the same thing. To add someone to the prayer chain or ask for any of the above services contact Pat Sack by phone at 644-9575 or Beth Godwin by e-mail at bandbgodwin@sbcglobal.net.

Pat Sack and Beth Godwin, Co-Chairs, Faith Cares Committee

Thank You:

I would like to thank everyone who attended my mom’s 80th birthday party/coffee and on March 18th. It meant so much to us to have each of you there to help celebrate her special day. Thank you for all of the helping hands that helped the event run smoothly.

Sincerely, Beth Warren

SOCIAL MINISTRY

Social Ministry has lots to talk about this month ...

EAST HARTFORD HOMELESS SHELTER

During March, East Hartford Interfaith Ministries (EHIM) agreed to take over our Appliance Program that we at Faith have been nurturing and funding for 2 years through our Endowment Fund. The new ministry is called “New Beginnings” and by the time you read this, we will have purchased and delivered our first appliance, a dryer, to a family in East Hartford. Faith’s Endowment Fund has offered a \$1,000 challenge grant to facilitate fund raising for this ministry at EHIM. The first \$500 was released to EHIM to match the \$500 given by the First Congregational Church in East Hartford. We still have \$500 to match. If you are interested in donating to EHIM for the New Beginnings fund, please send your check to Ed Carlson, EHIM Treasurer, at 59 Brentmoor Road, East Hartford, CT 06118. **In the memo section, write “New Beginnings”.** Otherwise, this money will be placed in the general EHIM fund.

An article appeared in the East Hartford Gazette and in the Hartford Courant in early April about this new program, resulting in two phone calls. One call was from a health network in Vernon offering to give free mammograms to women residing at the shelter. The coupons they sent were given to personnel at the Shelter. The second call was from a Latino woman in East Hartford who never knew the shelter existed. She has since talked with the folks there and is spearheading a drive to bring items into the shelter that are desperately needed by the residents. Here is a list of those items in case you would like to donate. There will be a box in the Narthex for these donations beginning May 6 and items will be brought to the shelter on May 19.

Toothpaste	deodorant (men & women’s)	shampoo (baby & adult)
Lotions	diapers (all sizes)	
Bedding	good, used clothing (especially children’s)	
Used vacuum cleaners	Money for shelter to purchase bus tokens	

A collection of furniture, beds, etc. will be made on **Saturday, May 19**. If you have any furniture, microwaves (especially needed), household items to donate, please let Donna Hubbs or Tom Benoit know by Sunday, May 13. We will be organizing a “mission” for Saturday, May 19, to pick up all the items and bring them to the shelter. Their storage room is empty and we need to fill it with items people need as they move out of the shelter into their own homes. If you can help that day, please let Donna Hubbs or Tom Benoit know.

EHIM is putting out a new Annual Appeal – A **Mother’s Day Appeal** – to raise money for EHIM’s ministries – the Friendship Center, Human Needs, and New Beginnings. A special collection plate will be in the Narthex on Mother’s Day for these donations. Please make checks payable to EHIM and, because the New Beginnings ministry was born here at Faith Lutheran, we would appreciate your writing “New Beginnings” in the memo section of your check so it will be credited directly to that account. If you give cash, envelopes will be available to write the name of the ministry on it.

MEN & WOMEN IN BLUE APPRECIATION DAY

Our 7th Annual Appreciation Day will be held here at Faith Lutheran on Thursday, May 17, 2007. We will once again be serving breakfast, lunch, and dinner to those men and women who serve us daily. As an added bonus this year, we are inviting East Hartford members of the active military and the families of armed service personnel who are either serving in the Middle East at this time or who have given their lives for this service to join us for dinner.

We thank Carol Furbush Meskill for stepping up to help us coordinate our cooking and the purchase of food this year. Carol has experience and contacts in the food industry which will help us greatly. Our **next meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, May 1 at 7pm** in the church office, if you would like to help. Presently, we only have 6 people planning this event and could use your input! Please don’t be shy!!!! The donation board will be up in the Narthex on Sunday, May 6. Please let us know if you can bake,

donate time or money, or would like to volunteer that day. All items (except perishables and baked goods) need to be brought to church on Sunday, May 13. For perishables and baked goods, we will be here from 3-9pm on Wednesday, May 16 to accept them.

COVENANT TO CARE / ADOPT A SOCIAL WORKER

Our social worker, Tawanda Hurdle Jackson, just recently returned to work at Manchester DCF after the death of her 37 year old brother in January and some subsequent knee surgery. She is in the process of getting a new caseload and will be updating us shortly about any particular needs we might help with. In the meantime, we have been thinking about school backpacks. We know, school for this year isn't even over yet! However, we normally need to think about this in August when many of us are on vacation. The Social Ministry committee thought that perhaps if we started collecting some of the supplies in June, we would have a broader base of people to work with and would be ahead of the game in August. Therefore, during the first two weeks of June, there will be a backpack board in the Narthex. Please help us get started on this ambitious project now so that we can meet the need in late August.

It is a privilege to carry out the Social Ministry work here at Faith Lutheran. Thank you all for your continued support and enthusiastic commitment to helping those less fortunate in our community.

Yours in Christ's name,

Donna Hubbs, Social Ministry Chairperson
Tom Benoit, Church Council Liaison to Social Ministry

YOUTH Happenings & Upcoming Events

During the Spring Clean Up Day, the **Youth repainted the Youth Room** to reflect some of their recent experiences and how the sharing and understanding of Christ's messages from those experiences have influenced them. If you haven't had a chance to see it yet, please stop by. I think you'll be pleasantly surprised and may even gain a new perspective to think about.

We're continuing to prepare for **another Youth Service**. We'll be at Faith June 3 and at Ebenezer June 10 (a first for Ebenezer). Special thanks to Knute Ogren from Emmanuel in Hartford and Beth Godwin for agreeing to work with the group on the music!

Planning for this year's **30 Hour Famine** is in full gear for April 28 and 29 and will have been completed by the time you read this. Hopefully you were able to support the Youth with your pledges and canned goods. We'll get back to you with the final tallies in next month's update!

Finally a reminder that our **BIG EVENT, the TAG SALE** will be coming **May 5**. If you haven't dropped off your items yet, please do! Please also ask your friends to do the same!

That's all for now. See you next month with the latest news and plans from the Youth Group!

From the heart...

A great big "thank you" to all of you for the kindness you have shown towards Bill and me. The beautiful prayer blankets, flowers, cards and phone calls. Also for keeping Bill in your prayers. It showed us once more that the people at Faith are a caring congregation. Bill had a very uplifting visit with Pastor Morris...it was quite an incredible afternoon! Thank you to Beth and Mike for the wonderful meals. I can't even begin to start to thank Jay, Carla and Chuck. They have been here right from the start, driving to Worcester (Jay on Wednesday and Chuck on Thursday). Carla, always making sure that all Bill's medications were in order, plus numerous phone calls to doctors and insurance companies. What would I have done without such great friends?

As for Bill, he is doing much better. Please continue to keep him in your prayers, and let's hope together for a miracle. He still has to be very careful about infections and therefore needs to avoid crowds.

Thank you once more,
Bill, Hilda, Charles and Kevin

FAITH LUTHERAN CHURCH PRESENTS

DUO VIVO

GARY CAPOZZIELLO, VIOLIN and
CLAUDIA CALI, PIANO

IN CONCERT

Music by
MOZART and BRAHMS and more

SUNDAY MAY 20, 2007 at 4 pm

Gary Capozziello played at Faith Lutheran Church on Easter morning this year. Gary and his partner in DUO VIVO, Claudia Cali, are eager to participate in the Faith Lutheran Church Music Series.

Duo Vivo is a new, charismatic force in the southern Connecticut music scene. Sponsored by the Talent Education Suzuki School in Norwalk, CT, this duo formed when Gary Capozziello and Claudia Cali joined the school's faculty.

Mr Capozziello graduated from the New England Conservatory with a master of music degree in violin performance and received his bachelor of music degree in violin performance from SUNY Purchase Conservatory of Music. As a soloist he has performed in the Community Concert Series as Artist in Residence at Our Savior's Lutheran Church in Fairfield for many years, as well as the Afternoon Concert Series at the Neuberger Museum of Art, Slee Hall in Buffalo, NY and the 20th Century Club in Buffalo, and for South Shore Music, Inc. His chamber music background includes participation at Kneisel Hall Chamber Music Festival in Blue Hill, Maine and the Almafí Coast Music Festival in

Italy. Gary has also had the opportunity to work with such masters as Issac Stern, Midori, Maxim Verngerov and Glen Dicterow.

Ms. Cali began her studies at the age of four in Italy. She graduated in piano from the Conservatorio di Musica Francesco Morlacchi in Perugia. She also has a degree in composition from the same conservatory. She received a degree in modern literature at the Università degli Studi di Perugia. She then received a master's degree in music communication for discography and radio at Catholic University of Milan

The Path to Ordination

Since November of last year I have had the privilege of serving on the New England Synod Candidacy Committee. The committee is made up of eight laypersons, eight clergy, Bishop Payne and Pastor Asta. We meet with individuals who are on the path to ordained ministry. Some of these men and women are just beginning the process of discerning their call, and after receiving the Candidacy Committee's approval they will enter seminary. Others are already well along in seminary and are serving internships in various parts of the country. Still others have completed all of their education and are coming to the committee for approval for ordination.

What this has meant for me personally is that I've had the opportunity to see the Spirit at work in new and exciting ways. The Spirit has led these individuals to answer Christ's call to the ministry. Many of them are entering the ministry as second careers. Some of them have overcome great personal struggles. All of them tell of their personal faith journeys and the Holy Spirit is present in each one.

Serving on this committee has also given me the opportunity to interact with Bishop Payne in small group sessions and see how effectively she shepherds her flock. I have always been impressed with her preaching, but here I see her care and concern for the candidates, the congregations, and for the candidacy process as a whole. She is an exemplary leader in all respects. For those candidates that the committee determines are not yet ready to move forward in the process, the Bishop and her staff provide counseling and mentoring. Bishop Payne clearly cares for and nurtures our congregations and clergy. She is a blessing to us all.

When I shared some of these thoughts at the April church council meeting, I was encouraged to write this article. Please feel free to ask me any questions you might have about the Candidacy Committee and take advantage of opportunities you have to get involved in events of the larger church - Global mission events, Regional gatherings, and Synod conventions, just to name a few.

Annette Bolt