

VOICE OF FAITH

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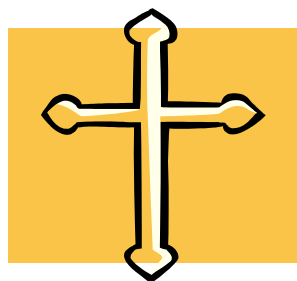
Special Points of Interest:

- *Congregational Meeting*
- *WELCA Retreat*
- *Men and Women in Blue wrap-up*

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Faith Lutheran Church
1120 Silver Lane
East Hartford, CT. 06118
860-569-2037



June 2008

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1 8AM Worship Svc. 8:45 Ringers/Singers 9AM Adult Worship 9:15 SCS 10:30 Worship Svc.	2 Iglesia de Dios @ 6PM/Parish Hall	3 8:30 OA/Rm.1 Division II Mtg. 7PM	4 10AM OA/Rm.1 Worship/Music Mtg 6PM 7:30 Choir Rehearsal PBM@6:30 PM	5 7:00 AA/Parish Hall Synod Assembly	6 1PM OA/Rm. 1 Synod Assembly	7 Spring Clean-up 8:30—12:30 1:00 AA/Parish Hall
8 8AM Worship Svc. Last day of SCS 10:30 Worship Svc. Congregational Mtg.	9 Iglesia de Dios @ 6PM/Parish Hall Church Council 7 PM	10 8:30 OA/Rm.1	11 10AM OA/Rm.1 PBM@6:30 PM 7:30 Choir Rehearsal	12 7:00 AA/Parish Hall	13 1PM OA/Rm. 1	14 1:00 AA/Parish Hall
15 9:30 Worship Svc.	16 Iglesia de Dios @ 6PM/Parish Hall	17 8:30 OA/Rm.1	18 10AM OA/Rm.1	19 7:00 AA/Parish Hall	20 1PM OA/Rm. 1	21 1:00 AA/Parish Hall Synod Seminar on Racism
22 9:30 Worship Svc. Church Picnic @ the Johnkoski's	23 Iglesia de Dios @ 6PM/Parish Hall	24 8:30 OA/Rm.1	25 10AM OA/Rm.1	26 7:00 AA/Parish Hall	27 1PM OA/Rm. 1	28 1:00 AA/Parish Hall
29 9:30 Worship Svc.	30 Iglesia de Dios @ 6PM/Parish Hall WELCA Picnic @ Linda Parkany's 6PM					

From the Pastor:

Dear friends in Christ,

“They devoted themselves to the apostles’ teaching and fellowship, to the breaking of bread and the prayers.” – Acts 2:42

It’s been just over three months since you called me to be your pastor. It’s certainly been an exciting and busy season for Carolyn and me. We have begun to get to know many of you and the East Hartford community. I’ve had a great time living in the Nutmeg Lane apartment complex; the crowds of people running around and playing soccer and cricket outdoors on warm spring evenings remind me of my own childhood in the middle east. Still, Carolyn and I are looking forward to moving out of the apartment into our own house. We’ll be living in the neighborhood between Faith and I-84, and it will be a blessing to get settled.

I have been privileged to be part of a weekly prayer and bible-study session at the home of Arunkumar and Pauline, with some of our other neighbors. In these sessions, our church is learning from the South Indian Lutheran church; our time together is called a “prayer cell” in Hyderabad. It’s wonderful! I hope more people can participate, and that we can start a few more prayer cells in the times to come.

A great delight in being here with you has been leading worship and preaching. I confess that I was finishing up my training, I was dreading weekly preaching. But I was wrong to dread it; with God’s help and yours the words have come into my mouth.

One of my mentors told me that weekly preaching is just one part of an ongoing conversation among everyone in the congregation (including the pastor) about how God transforms and shapes our lives together, and about what it means to be the church in the world. Our conversation together for these past months has been about what it means to live as Jesus’s disciples. The quote from Acts at the beginning of this letter helps us understand the habits and practices – the “marks” – of discipleship.

Healthy discipleship has many different marks. We’ve talked about forgiveness, about trusting God, and about “walking in reverent fear” in recent months. In the seasons to come, I invite us to consider six particular marks for our individual lives of discipleship and our life together here at Faith.

- (1) daily prayer,
- (2) weekly worship,
- (3) regular learning and teaching of the Bible, the living Word,
- (4) service to each other and the world,
- (5) building strong relationships, and
- (6) generous giving.

These marks of discipleship, if we can practice them, offer us the possibility of deepening our spiritual life together, strengthening our church community, and making Jesus known more effectively. I invite you to pray about these marks of discipleship, and to talk them over, and consider how you might make them habits in your lives.

Faithfully,
Pastor Ollie Jones

Pastor Ollie-Emergency Contact information

Telephone: 860-966-5712 (cell)

Email: Pastor.Ollie@gmail.com



June

02	Janina Johnkoski	18	Peter Carlson
07	Andrew Kenyon	19	Christine Carlson
08	Ronald Hart	20	Kent Alan Tedford
11	Shaun Carr	25	Bruce Weston
12	Kendra Dubiel	29	Alan Taylor
13	Kirsten Scoles		

The Faith Cares Committee continues to help and pray for the following members and friends of our congregation: Clinton Chu Eleanor Warren Frank Sauerbeck Karen O'Brien Elsie Benjamin Ed Larson Lucille Brooks Albert Fillmore Terry Scavetta Dorothy Fillmore Ivy Farinella Betty Exley and Esther Argenyi.

For prayer concerns, transportation, or meal support, please call Pat Sack (860-644-9575) or Beth Godwin (860-649-1073), or sign up on the posters provided on the Narthex doors.

Faith's new interactive web site is ready for our use. It offers some useful information, such as a daily Bible reading and a list of upcoming events. It is designed so we can all add interesting information to share: articles, photos, and upcoming events. Please visit us online at <http://www.FaithLutheranCT.org> and try creating an account for yourself.

Upcoming activities at Faith

- | | |
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| 6/1 – Sun – Christian Ed Meeting @ 8:30 | 6/30 – Mon – WELCA Picnic @ Linda Parkany's @ 6PM |
| 6/3 - Tues – Division II meeting @7:00PM | 7/11-13 – Fri-Sun – WELCA Retreat @ Koinonia, Londonderry, VT |
| 6/4 – Wed – Worship & Music @ 6:00PM | 7/26-Sat- Faith's Day @ Thrivent Builds |
| 6/4 – Wed – Prayer Blanket Ministry @ 6:30pm | 8/24 – Sun – Faith & Family Day @ NB Rock Cats w/ Thrivent |
| 6/5 – Thur – Synod Assembly – Pastor Ollie away | 9/5-7- Fri-Sun Youth @Hammonasset |
| 6/7- Sat – Church Spring Clean up @ Faith @ 8:30AM- 12:30PM | 9/13- Sat-Youth Six Flags Family Day & Concert |
| 6/8 – Sun – Last day of Sunday School | 9/26-28 – Fri-Sun-Youth JR Group @Calumet retreat |
| 6/8 - Sun – Worship@8AM and 10:30AM, Adult Education 9AM, Sunday School 9:15 | 10/8 – Wed – Hartford Conference Clergy Lunch @ Faith |
| 6/8 – Sun – Congregational Meeting after Service | 11/15 – Sat – Youth Concert "Rock The Sound" – Bridgeport, CT @ 6:00 |
| 6/11 – Wed – Prayer Blanket Ministry @ 6:30pm | 12/7 – Sun – Merrimack Valley Ringers Bell Concert @ Faith |
| 6/15 – Sun – 1 st Day of 9:30 Service | |
| 6/21-22 – Synod Racism Seminar @ TBD | |
| 6/22 – Sun – Church Picnic @ Shea Johnkoski @ 12:00 | |

YOUTH Happenings & Upcoming Events

May was a month filled with Prayer, Emotion and Fund Raising!

We started the month by working with our Prayer Blanket Ministry to prepare and present Prayer Blankets to the Burdick family as they get ready to have Scott deploy to IRAQ for his 2nd Tour of Duty in the Middle East on May 17th (Kathy is the Ebenezer Youth Leader & Katie, Mike & Matt are part of the FABENEZER Youth Group) . The evening included over 40 people from Faith & Ebenezer and turned out to be a wonderful opportunity to share this ministry with our friends as well as being an extremely moving experience for all. In addition to the evening at Faith, a number of us also made the trip to Ebenezer on 5/11 to finalize the Blanket presentation and share the Ministry with Ebenezer's full congregation. Thanks to Linda Woodrow and the Prayer Blanket Ministry, Pastor Ollie & Pastor Scott and the whole Burdick family for helping to make this evening a success.

On May 17 we held our 2nd Annual Youth Tag Sale & Car Wash and raised over \$1,500 (includes a \$500 contribution from the Hartford Thrivent Chapter). Although it didn't seem like we were going to have as many "things" to sell early in the week, by Friday night the Parish Hall was full. Thanks again to all those that donated "things" and brought their car by for a Wash, along with everyone that helped set up on Friday and work the Tag Sale on Saturday. Start saving your "things" for next year's sale!

We'd also like to take a minute to Congratulate our 2 Seniors, Eric and Ron, on their Graduation from High School in June. They've been an important part of the group for the past 5 years and we'll definitely miss their "keen" insights and observations in the future.

Coming up June - September

- o **June** – Eric & Ron Graduations
- o **July** – July 5th Ct River Fireworks & Cookout @ Buckland, Mission Trip with Calumet 7/27-8/2
- o **August** – Picnic 8/23, Faith In Family Day & Concert @ New Britain Rock Cats – 8/24
- o **September** – Hammonasset 9/5-7, Youth Group Bible Study begins, Six Flags Family Day & Concert – 9/13, CALUMET Jr Group Retreat 9/26-28

See you in August with an update on our activities!

Kent

Congregational Meeting

Please note that there will be a congregational meeting on Sunday, June 8, immediately following the 10:30AM worship service. The purpose of this meeting is to respond to the congregation's request made at the Annual Congregational meeting on February 3, 2008 to review the staffing compensation as stated in the 2008 Budget and to report on our current finances. The council will recommend two motions for congregational approval. One motion is to increase the church secretary's hours to 16 hours per week beginning August 16. The other motion relates to adding a paid musician for our 8:00AM service beginning September 1.

Late Spring Cleanup

Saturday, June 7, 2008 from 8:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.

Please spend a morning at church and help us with the **Spring Clean-Up**. The focus will be on polishing up the new entryway, clutter busting, dusting and cleaning in the corners. If you have questions or a pet project, please contact Jay Stolzenhaller at 528-0165 or j.stolzen@cox.net. Thank you.

Social Ministry:

Men & Women In Blue was held on Thursday, May 8 this year. We fed 131 police, fire, and EMT personnel as well as the mother of one service person who had served in Iraq. A special thank you to everyone who volunteered and worked on this event in any way...a special thanks to our pasta and turkey cooks, our breakfast chef, Manuel Maneses, my "runners" Ed Carlson and Earl Pellett, our shoppers, Mary Susca, Jennie Kane, Cheryl and Tom Hanley, to Carol Meskill who did a beautiful job on the flowers in Eleanor's absence, stretched our budget, got Generis and Marco Polo to donate items and helped with the cooking...we couldn't have done it without you, Carol! A special thank you as well to Lois Furbush, Linda Woodrow and the prayer blanket ministry. We were also pleased to have Hilda Schiemer back in the kitchen with us...it isn't the same without Hilda's special touch (Hilda, those sweet potatoes were AWESOME!).

As a special event this year, Pastor Ollie, on our behalf, presented the East Hartford Fire Chief, Michael Eremita, with a prayer blanket to honor his retirement in late May from the East Hartford Fire Department. Ken Parkany, who thankfully took pictures that day, has done up a special set of pictures for Chief Eremita as well. Thanks, Ken! Chief Eremita was thrilled with his blanket and even told a story or two about how much it would mean to him. He had his Assistant Chief in tears! It was a wonderful and very special part of the day. If you would like to see the general DVD that Ken did of this day, it can be found in the Narthex and borrowed for viewing.

Covenant to Care, the non-profit that runs our Adopt A Social Worker Program has found us a new social worker. Berta (Mimi) Ramos also works at the Manchester DCF offices and was a colleague of Tawanda's. She will be with us on Sunday, June 1, where we will be "adopting" her and she us. We will also be donating a \$100.00 check to Covenant to Care that day for their Adopt a Social Worker Program.

The Mother's Day Appeal for the programs of East Hartford Interfaith Ministries was a big success at Faith Lutheran. In two Sundays, we raised \$710.00 in honor and memory of our mothers or other significant women in our lives. In total, the EHIM 2nd Annual Mother's Day Appeal brought in about \$1300.00. Thrivent Financial will be matching that at \$1 for every \$3.00 raised, so the Appeal will have brought in around \$1650.00. This is much better than last year, so we can be hopeful that this Appeal will in time help broaden the support base for EHIM beyond our churches to all people in East Hartford, churched or unchurched. Praise the Lord!

Donna Hubbs, Committee Chair

Tom Benoit, Council Liaison

Church Picnic

Our Annual church picnic will again be hosted by the Johnkoski family. The date is Sunday, June 22, 2008, with festivities beginning after service. Sign up sheets will be posted in the narthex. If you have any questions please contact Gene or Janina @ 644-5543.

WELCA RETREAT – JULY 11-13

Blue Gentian Lodge
Magic Mountain Road
Londonderry, VT

JOIN US FOR AN INSPIRING, FUN FILLED RETREAT LED BY SUE ALLAIRE
FREE TIME ON SATURDAY AFTERNOON TO ENJOY THE POOL, THE MOUNTAINS OR A
WESTON PLAYHOUSE MATINEE

COST: \$120 (two nights lodging, taxes, two breakfasts, & dinner on Sat)

REGISTRATION DEADLINE: JUNE 22
VERMONT

CHECKS PAYABLE TO: KOINONIA OF

Please give your retreat checks to Marjorie Coons along with your roommate preferences.
The 3:00PM matinee at the Weston Playhouse is “The Light in the Piazza” which is a romantic
musical that takes place in Florence, Italy. The cost of the show is \$46/ticket for an orchestra
seat. Those checks should be payable to Annette Bolt directly.

Five finger prayer:

1. Your thumb is nearest you. So begin your prayers by praying for those closest to you. They are the easiest to remember. To pray for our loved ones is, as C. S. Lewis once said, a 'sweet duty.'

2. The next finger is the pointing finger. Pray for those who teach, instruct and heal. This includes teachers, doctors, and ministers They need support and wisdom in pointing others in the right direction. Keep them in your prayers.

3. The next finger is the tallest finger. It reminds us of our leaders. Pray for the president, leaders in business and industry, and administrators. These people shape our nation and guide public opinion. They need God's guidance.

4. The fourth finger is our ring finger. Surprising to many is the fact that this is our weakest finger, as any piano teacher will testify. It should remind us to pray for those who are weak, in trouble or in pain. They need your prayers day and night. You cannot pray too much for them.

5. And lastly comes our little finger - the smallest finger of all which is where we should place ourselves in relation to God and others. As the Bible says, 'The least shall be the greatest among you.' Your pinkie should remind you to pray for yourself. By the time you have prayed for the other four groups, your own needs will be put into proper perspective and you will be able to pray for yourself more effectively.

Summer offering

Please remember as you are on vacation over the summer to maintain your pledging commitment. If you have not enrolled in the Simply Giving program, please see Joe Carlson or Bruce Weston and they will be happy to explain to you how it works and help you get signed up for it.