

# Walking in Faith

Faith Lutheran Church  
Harcourt, Iowa

August 2005

## Notes from the Edge of the Desk

I've been riding a wave of sentimentality lately. I'm not sure what has brought it on—maybe it's concern for some of my loved ones who are hurting or have troubles. Or maybe it's subconsciously looking back at simpler times, when decisions weren't so dire & news wasn't so scary. But I dream about things that I haven't thought about in years. I remember peculiar things. Lately, I remember smells.

I can remember the smell that was at my aunt's house—they lived in an old Victorian, with a wooded hill that ran up beside their house. There was always shade there, and the place smelled of moss & ferns & damp earth. I can't remember ever smelling that particular combination anywhere else—it was peculiar to that house, in that time.

I remember going to the cemeteries on Memorial Day weekend. Mom would cut bridal wreath & irises & whatever else was blooming, & we would get in the car to deliver them. It was a different time; highways ran right through the center of various towns, & somewhere along the route, we would run into a Memorial Day parade. It was the worst thing that could happen if you were my dad, & wanting to get there: it was the best part of the trip, if you were a kid. The worst part for kids was being in the cemetery. "Don't run." "Don't walk across the graves." "Don't wander off..." But there was a smell there, too. The cemeteries were all freshly clipped in anticipation of the holiday, & something grew there that was extremely pungent & aromatic when it was cut. Graveyards are exotic, mysterious places when you are little, & that odor was exotic, too—something a little child might imagine frankincense would smell like.

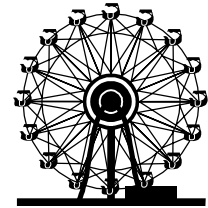
I recall coming home on those days that mom was making bread. It was an all day affair. She'd make loaves & cloverleaf buns, & cinnamon rolls, & have enough left over for pizza dough or fried bread dough. (I used to think that fried bread dough was a staple in everyone's house—but others have looked at me odd when I've mentioned it. It was just a ball of bread dough, flattened by hand; a hole cut in the center & deep-fried until golden brown—served with butter & sugar.) But it's not the smell of the baking bread I remember—it's the smell of the yeast: tangy, earthy, organic. It was the smell of plenty—the odor of home.

(continued on page 3)



### Inside this issue:

<i>Church Council</i>	2
<i>Serving Faith-August</i>	
<i>Treasurer's Report</i>	
<i>Ice Cream Social</i>	3
<i>Community Worship</i>	
<i>Lawn Mowing</i>	
<i>S.S. Registration</i>	
<i>August Schedule</i>	4
<i>WELCA News</i>	
<i>Youth News</i>	



**Worship 9:00**  
**Coffee 10:00**



**SERVING  
COFFEE  
IN August**

7-  
14- Alex Engquist  
21-  
28- Ice Cream Social



## Faith Council—June & July 2005

Faith Lutheran Church Council met June 2, 2005 at 7:30 pm. Members present were Joe Buda, Jim Engstrom, Dorothy Nahnsen, Jan Peterson, Jeff Peterson, Don Peterson, Milt Smith, John Samuelson and Pastor Rod. Pastor Rod led the council in devotions based on Psalm 103 followed by a prayer.

The secretary's report was read and approved with the following corrections. Engquist Lumber bill is \$2886.52 and the bill from Joe Buda for the water softener is \$524.70. The treasurer's report was read and approved. May 31st balance was \$2951.23.

Discussion was held regarding the upcoming Pork Loin Dinner. Assignments were finalized. After the dinner, the church pews will be removed in preparation for the repair and painting of the sanctuary.

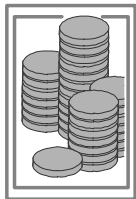
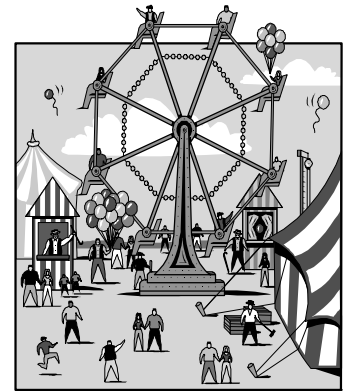
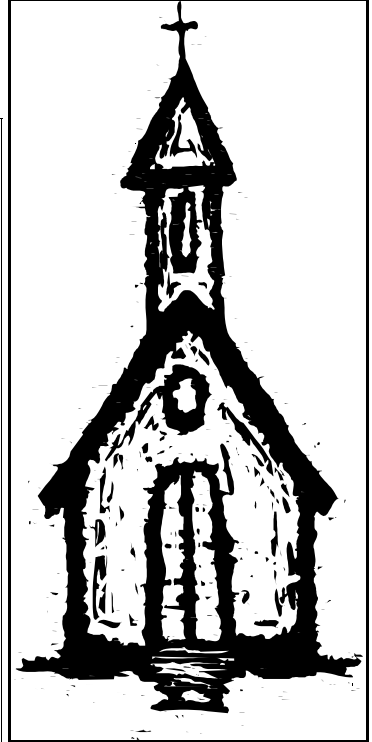
Pastor Rod reminded that church will start at 9:00 am on July 3rd for the coming year. The replacement plants from Garden of Dreams have been planted by John. Jeff had sprayed for weeds. Contemporary worship will begin this coming Sunday. There will be a joint service in Dolliver Park on July 24th. There will be no council meeting in July. Meeting adjourned at 8:05 pm.

Faith Lutheran Church Council met July 7, 2005. Members present were Kari Bahr, Joe Buda, Dorothy Nahnsen, Jeff Peterson, Don Peterson, John Samuelson, and Pastor Rod. Pastor Rod opened the meeting with prayer.

The secretary's report was read and approved. There was no treasurer's report. The pork loin dinner netted \$2050 with another \$600 coming from Thrivent.

Pastor Rod reported that Carol Castenson passed away with her funeral on Saturday at 2PM. The service will be in the Harcourt Methodist church with lunch at Faith afterwards. Stratford Glass was here regarding the repair of the stained glass window in the sanctuary. Ferguson's bill was less than the estimate. Enos bill was \$808 for refinishing the floor. Reupholstering the cushions will take approximately 42 yards of material. John appointed Pastor Rod, Marsha and Cheryl to choose the material. A motion was made, seconded and carried to purchase the necessary material. One church pew will be removed from each side of the church. Those pews will be shortened and placed at the back of the church. The pew by the organ will remain. Pastor Rod reported that Mike Gustafson will make molding for the picture at the front of the church. Roofing will begin soon as weather permits. Lightning damaged the lighted cross. John is checking regarding repair. There will be no meeting in August. Meeting adjourned at 8:10PM.

Respectfully submitted, Dorothy Nahnsen



### Treasurer's Report

<b>Balance 5/01/05</b>	<b>\$ 2984.92</b>
<b>May Deposits</b>	<b>\$ 2932.75</b>
<b>May Expenses</b>	<b>\$ 2966.44</b>
<b>Balance 5/31/05</b>	<b>\$ 2951.23</b>

## Serving Faith

**Ushers—**  
Grant Gibbons & Jeff Peterson

**Communion Assistants—**  
Don Peterson & Jim Engstrom

**Altar & Greeter—**  
Cheryl Meyer

**Altar Flowers—**  
Fern & Lawrence Anderson  
In Memory of Loved Ones

# Ice Cream Social & Bake Sale Sunday, August 28th 11 am – 1 pm

Home Made Ice Cream,  
Pie,  
Beefburgers, Beans &  
Drink



## Community Worship

On Sunday, August 7th, a Community Worship will be in the Harcourt park at 10:30 am for Appreciation Days. All those from Faith who plan to attend are asked to bring a salad for the noon meal. Worship will also be held at Faith that morning at 9 am. The Harcourt Methodist church is hosting the day's event.

*(Notes from the Edge, continued from page 1)*

Then there was the smell of the river bank, on a summer's morning. Or baby powder, or dad's aftershave. Or the smell of the water as it came out of the pump, or the smell of the garden, the first time it rained after it had been tilled. There was the smell of the school cafeteria, or the box of old Christmas ornaments when you opened them. And the smell when you had a box with new shoes in it, or the scent of a mimeographed handout at school.

I've been struggling lately with a good way to measure life. Time passes in such fits & jumps - some moments pass too slowly, & some events pass before we can draw our second breath. Calendars tell the story of what has consumed our time, but seem to have little to do with the way we have passed our lives. Friends come & go. Circumstances change.

So maybe an diary of life made up of scents & smells would serve as well as anything. It was a symbol that Paul used in his second letter to the Corinthians: "Thanks be to God, who always gives us in Christ a part in his triumphal procession, *and through us is spreading everywhere the fragrance of the knowledge of himself.* [2:14]

The fragrance of the knowledge of Christ. Now that makes good scents... rod

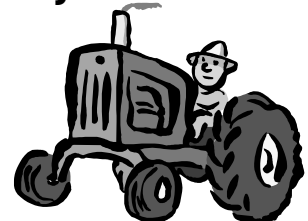
## **SUNDAY SCHOOL REGISTRATION**

**Sunday, September 11th will be the beginning day for Sunday School. Please let Cheryl Meyer know if your children will be attending this fall, so that teachers and plans can be made.**

\_\_\_\_\_, age \_\_\_\_\_  
**will be attending Sunday School at Faith this fall.**

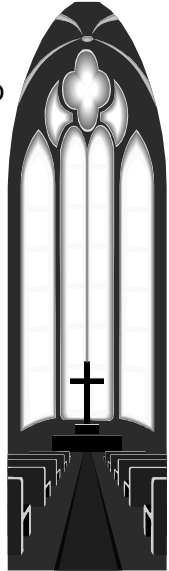
## Lawn Mowers For August

- 5-
- 12-Engquist family
- 19-Todd Clay
- 26- Jeff Peterson



## SANCTUARY NEWS

Thanks to our congregation for your patience during the renovation of the sanctuary. It has been interesting to come each week and view the progress. Summer worship has been more casual and we will all be happy to resume worship soon in the sanctuary.



- August 7 \*Worship 9 am at Faith, Coffee Hour  
\*Community Worship in the Park 10:30 am  
\*Countryside Men's Golf Tourn—12:30
- August 10 \*Bingo at Gowrie Care Center 2 pm
- August 11 \*Martha Group at Rosalie Gaworski home 2 pm  
\*Sarah Group at church 6:30 pm  
Hostess, Marsha Samuelson
- August 14 \*Worship 9 am, Coffee Hour
- August 21 \*Worship 9 am, Coffee Hour  
\*Chicken Dinner at Zion
- August 26 \*Registrations due for Twin Lakes  
Retreat Sept. 14
- August 28 \*Worship 9 am , Coffee Hour  
\*Ice Cream Social & Bake Sale  
11 am - 1 pm



## WELCA NEWS—August, 2005

Our summer respite time is quickly coming to an end, as we begin to regroup for our schedule of fall events.

Our first concern is the up-coming Ice Cream Social & Bake Sale, on August 28th. We will be serving maidrites, hot dogs, chips, etc. We will need 26 pies & 4 pans of bars for the social, plus whatever you'd like to contribute to the bake sale. If you have an ice cream freezer & would be willing to help with that portion of the event, we would really appreciate hearing from you.

The Twin Lakes Fall Retreat is Sept. 14th. Registration is due by Aug. 26th, & the cost of \$20 includes the cost of meals & materials. The program is, "What's in Your Heart?"

Sunday School begins September 11th, & we are short a teacher for one class. We have worked hard at resurrecting our Sunday School, & would hate to have to lose any part of it. Could YOU help? A combination of volunteers could split the responsibility for the class, so you would not be obligated to lead it each Sunday. Talk to me, please!

I received this e-mail this summer, called "DUSTING". "A house becomes a home when you can write 'I Love You' on the furniture." I used to spend at least 8 hours every weekend making sure things were just perfect—"in case someone came over." Then I realized one day that no one came over; they were all out living life & having fun! Now when people visit, I find no need to explain the "condition" of my home. They are more interested in hearing about the things I've doing while I was away living life & having fun. If you haven't figured this out yet, please heed this advice: *Life is short. Enjoy it! Dust if you must... but wouldn't it be better to paint a picture or write a letter? Bake cookies or a cake? Plant a seed? Ponder the difference between want & need? Dust if you must, but there's not much time, with rivers to fish & mountains to climb, music to hear & books to read, friends to cherish & life to lead. Dust if you must, but the world's out there with the sun in your eyes, the wind in your hair. A flutter of snow, a shower of rain—this day will not come around again. Dust if you must, but bear in mind, old age will come & it's not kind. And when you go—& go you must—you, yourself will make more dust!* - - Cheryl